

The USSR and Arab Belligerency

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A sharp increase in the volume and intensity of the Soviet Union's campaign of vilification against Israel and encouragement of Arab intransigence and belligerency marked the period proceeding the recent aggression by Egypt, Jordan and Syria. The extracts from official Soviet notes, articles and broadcasts reproduced in the following pages have been selected from a mass of similar material. They illustrate how the way was paved for justifying an eventual Arab attack on Israel. They demonstrate how the Soviet Union identified itself unreservedly with Arab designs against Israel.

Parallel extracts from Arab sources appear together with the Soviet material in the following pages. These Arab speeches and statements make no secret of the fact that their objective was the total destruction of Israel. This fact was as well known to the Soviet Union as it was to the rest of the world. However, as the extracts show, Soviet propaganda chose to disregard completely this central Arab thesis. Instead, concepts such as "imperialism", "neo-colonialism", "reaction", "oil monopolies" were associated with Israel in order to justify the all-Soviet championship of the Arab cause.

The Soviet extracts further show the development of a situation in which Arab countries such as Syria and Egypt could do no wrong, and Israel or more specifically "reactionary circles" in Israel often aided and abetted by their counterparts in the West could perpetrate nothing but evil. The most extravagant rumours from Damascus or Cairo appeared as headlines in the Soviet press, but official Israel communiqués or impartial outside reports regarding Israel were totally ignored. Thus Syrian artillery never shelled Israeli agricultural settlements, murder of Israeli civilians by El Fatah gangs is "alleged", terrorists who mined Israeli roads were "mythical" and saboteurs who blew up water pumps were "so-called".

While the flames of Arab hatred were being skilfully fanned, the Soviet Union was taking active measure to ensure that this hatred would be able to express itself in a practical manner. The Soviet propaganda campaign had no difficulty in justifying the huge arms supplies as necessary to counter Israel's "imperialist-backed aggression".

However, the Soviet Union did not content itself with merely creating the climate for war and supplying one side with the means of making war, it also was responsible for sparking the actual outbreak of hostilities. In his speech of resignation on June 9, Nasser revealed that the Soviet Union informed a group of visiting parliamentarians that Israel was on the point of implementing a plan for a full-scale attack on Syria. It was this fiction — readily believed — which, Nasser declared, caused him to order his army into Sinai, to close the Straits of Tiran and expel the U.N. Emergency Force. Thus Egypt, “burning with desire for the battle to start” (Cairo Radio, 4.6.67) made the final moves to attack Israel.

ISRAEL FOREIGN MINISTER'S STATEMENT

THE SOVIET ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EASTERN CRISIS

An extract from the statement of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Israel, Mr. Abba Eban, to the General Assembly of the United Nations on 19th June, 1967.

Mr. President, I have spoken of Israel's defence against the assaults of neighbouring states. This is not the entire story. Whatever happens in the Middle East for good or ill, for peace or conflict, is powerfully affected by what the Great Powers do or omit to do. When the Soviet Union initiates a discussion here, our gaze is inexorably drawn to the story of its role in recent Middle Eastern history. It is a sad and shocking story, it must be frankly told.

Billions of Dollars of Soviet Arms to Arab States

Since 1955 the Soviet Union has supplied the Arab States with 2,000 tanks, of which more than 1,000 have gone to Egypt. The Soviet Union has supplied the Arab States with 700 modern fighter aircraft and bombers, more recently with ground missiles, and Egypt alone has received from the USSR 540 field guns, 130 medium guns, 200 120 mm mortars, 695 anti-aircraft guns, 175 rocket launchers, 650 anti-tank guns, 7 destroyers, a number of Luna M and SPKA 2 ground to ground missiles, 14 submarines and 46 torpedo boats of various types including missile-carrying boats. The Egyptian Army has been trained by Soviet experts. This has been attested to by Egyptian officers captured by Israel. Most of this equipment was supplied to the Arab States after the Cairo Summit Conference of Arab leaders in January 1964 had agreed on a specific programme for the destruction of Israel, after they had announced and hastened to fulfil this plan by accelerating their arms purchases from the Soviet Union. The proportions of Soviet assistance are attested to by the startling fact that in Sinai alone the Egyptians abandoned equipment and offensive weapons of Soviet manufacture whose value is estimated at two billion dollars.

Together with the supply of offensive weapons, the Soviet Union has encouraged the military preparations of the Arab States.

Since 1956, the Soviet Union has assisted Egypt in its desire to conquer Israel. The great amount of offensive equipment supplied to the Arab States strengthens this assessment.

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A Great Power which professes its devotion to peaceful settlement and the rights of states has for fourteen years afflicted the Middle East with a headlong armaments race, with the paralysis of the United Nations as an instrument of security.

The constant increase and escalation of Soviet armaments in Arab countries has driven Israel to a corresponding, though far smaller, procurement programme. Israel's arms purchases were precisely geared to the successive phases of Arab, and especially Egyptian, rearmament. On many occasions in recent months we and others have vainly sought to secure Soviet agreement for a reciprocal reduction of arms supplies in our region. These efforts have borne no fruit. The expenditure on social and economic progress of one half of what has been put into the purchase of Soviet arms would have been sufficient to redeem Egypt from its social and economic ills. A corresponding diversion of resources from military to social expenditure would have taken place in Israel. A viable balance of forces could have been achieved at a lower level of armament, while our region could have moved forward to higher standards of human and social welfare. For Israel's attitude is clear. We should like to see the arms race slowed down. But if the race is joined, we are determined not to lose it. A fearful waste of economic energy in the Middle East is the direct result of the Soviet role in the constant stimulation of the race in arms.

It is clear from Arab sources that the Soviet Union has played a provocative role in spreading alarmist and incendiary reports of Israel's intention amongst Arab Governments.

On 9 June President Nasser said : "Our friends in the USSR warned the visiting parliamentary delegation in Moscow at the beginning of last month, that there exists a plan of attack against Syria."

Similarly an announcement by TASS of 23 May states :

"The Foreign Affairs and Security Committee of the Knesset have accorded the Cabinet special powers to carry out war operations against Syria. Israeli forces concentrating on the Syrian border have been put in a state of alert for war. General mobilization has also been proclaimed in the country . . ."

There was not one word of truth in this story. But its diffusion in the Arab countries could only have an incendiary result.

Cairo Radio broadcasted on 28 May (0500 hours) an address by Marshal Gretchko at a farewell party in honour of the former Egyptian Minister of Defence, Shams Ed-Din Badran :

"The USSR, her armed forces, her people and Government will stand by the Arabs and will continue to encourage and support them. We are your

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faithful friends and we shall continue aiding you because this is the policy of the Soviet nation, its Party and Government. On behalf of the Ministry of Defence and in the name of the Soviet nation we wish you success and victory."

USSR's anti-Israel Attitude Blocks all UN Peace Moves

The USSR has exercised her veto right in the Security Council five times. Each time a just and constructive judgment has been frustrated. On 22 January 1954 France, the United Kingdom and the United States presented a Draft Resolution to facilitate work on the west bank of the River Jordan in the Bnot Yaakov Canal Project. The Soviet veto held up regional water development for several years. On 29 March 1954, a New Zealand resolution simply reiterating UN policy on blockade along the Suez Canal was frustrated by Soviet dissent. On 19 August 1963, a United Kingdom and United States Resolution on the murder of two Israelis at Almogor was denied adoption by Soviet opposition. On 21 December 1964 the USSR vetoed a United Kingdom and United States Resolution on incidents at Tel Dan, including the shelling of Dan, Dafne and Shaar Yashuv. On 2 November 1966, Argentina, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Nigeria joined to express regret at "infiltration from Syria and loss of human life caused by the incidents in October and November 1966." This was one of the few resolutions sponsored by member-States from five continents.

The Soviet use of veto has had a dual effect. First, it prevented any resolution to which an Arab State was opposed, from being adopted by the Council. Secondly, it has inhibited the Security Council from taking constructive action in disputes between an Arab State and Israel because of the certain knowledge that the veto would be applied in what was deemed to be the Arab interest. The consequences of the Soviet veto policy have been to deny Israel any possibility of just and equitable treatment in the Security Council, and to nullify the Council as a constructive factor in the affairs of the Middle East.

Does all this really add up to a constructive intervention by the USSR in the Arab-Israel tension? The position becomes graver when we recall the unbridled invective against the Permanent Representative of Israel in the Security Council. In its words and in the letter to the Israel Government, the USSR has formulated an obscene comparison between the Israel Defence Forces and the Hitlerite hordes which overran Europe in the Second World War. There is flagrant breach of international morality and human decency in this comparison. Our nation never

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compromised with Hitler Germany. It never signed a pact with it as did the USSR in 1939. To associate the name of Israel with the accursed tyrant who engulfed the Jewish people in a tidal wave of slaughter is to violate every canon of elementary taste and fundamental truth.

Your Government's record in the stimulation of the arms race, in the paralysis of the Security Council, in the encouragement throughout the Arab World of unfounded suspicion concerning Israel's intentions, your constant refusal to say a single word of criticism at any time of declarations threatening the violent overthrow of Israel's sovereignty and existence — all this gravely undermines your claims to objectivity. You come here in our eyes not as a judge or as a prosecutor, but rather as a legitimate object of international criticism for the part that you have played in the sombre events which have brought our region to a point of explosive tension.

If the Soviet Union had made an equal distribution of the friendship amongst the peoples of the Middle East, if it had refrained from exploiting regional rancours and tensions for the purposes of its own global policy, if it had stood in even-handed devotion to the legitimate interests of all states, the crisis which now commands our attention and anxiety would never have occurred. To the charge of aggression I answer that Israel's resistance at the lowest ebb of its fortunes will resound across history, together with the uprising of our battered remnants in the Warsaw Ghetto as a triumphant assertion of human freedom. From the dawn of its history the people now rebuilding a State in Israel has struggled often in desperate conditions against tyranny and aggression. Our action on 5 June falls nobly within that tradition. We have tried to show that even a small state and a small people have the right to live. I believe that we shall not be found alone in the assertion of that right, which is the very essence of the Charter of the United Nations. Similarly, the suggestion that everything goes back to where it was before the 5th of June is totally unacceptable. The General Assembly cannot ignore the fact that the Security Council, where the primary responsibility lies, has emphatically rejected such a course. It was not Israel, but Syria, Egypt and Jordan, who violently shattered the previous situation to smithereens. It cannot be recaptured. It is a fact of technology that it is easier to fly to the moon than to reconstruct a broken egg. The Security Council acted wisely in rejecting the backward step, advocated by the Soviet Union. To go back to the situation out of which the conflict arose would mean that all the conditions for renewed hostilities would be brought together again. I repeat what I said to the Security Council. Our watchword is not "backward to belligerency" but "forward to peace."

Extracts from SOVIET AND ARAB OFFICIAL NOTES AND STATEMENTS.
PRESS REPORTS AND COMMENT, SPEECHES AND BROADCASTS.

ARAB STATEMENTS

TOTAL WAR TO DESTROY ZIONISTS

"The revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland, and the Ba'ath at their head, preach a genuine Arab Palestine Liberation, on the soil of Palestine, and they have had enough of the traditional methods . . . *It has become evident that our problem will only be solved by an armed struggle to expel the rapacious enemy, and put an end to the Zionist presence.* The Arab people demands armed struggle, and day-by-day incessant confrontation, through a total war of liberation in which all the Arabs will take part, and the Palestinians at their head. We expect the Arab leaders to understand the axiom, that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line, and the shortest road to victory is through armed struggle."

(*Al-Ba'ath*, Syrian daily, 13 March, 1966)

"It has already become evident that our problem will not be solved save by an armed struggle to expel the rapacious enemy, and put an end to the Zionist presence. The Arab people demands armed struggle, and continuous incessant confrontation, through a total war of liberation in which all the Arabs will participate."

(*Radio Damascus*, 13 March, 1966)

President Atassi at a military parade in Homs

". . . A total popular war of liberation is the only way to liberate Palestine and foil the plan of imperialism and reaction . . . We shall work for the mobilisation of all efforts for the needs of the total popular way of liberation . . . "

(*Radio Damascus*, 17 April, 1966)

TEL AVIV — AGENT OF NEO-COLONIALISM

"... The Western press now loudly shouts about the conference of the American Ambassadors in Beirut. It clamours about the movement of ships of the American Sixth Fleet in the Eastern Mediterranean and about the confidential talks between the American diplomats and military officials and the Israeli General Staff. No secret is made of the fact that this is connected with the policies of Syria and of other independent Arab countries that do not wish to be servants of neo-colonialism. However, this is just an additional exposure of neo-colonialism and its agents in Tel Aviv. They shouldn't forget the lessons of Suez and the fiasco of their adventure in that region . . . "

("Around Damascus", by K. Ivanov, *Izvestia*, May 2, 1966)

ISRAEL — THE THIRD FRONT OF IMPERIALISM

"... The Soviet side fully supports the lawful and inalienable rights of the Palestine Arabs. It supports the struggle and the efforts undertaken by the Arab States against the aggressive intrigues of the Imperialist forces striving to exploit the Palestine problem for an intensification of tension in the Near East . . . "

(From the Joint Communiqué on talks between USSR and UAR, *Izvestia*, May 19, 1966).

"... Here in the Near East, like in some other regions, Imperialism is trying to organize an attack against the interests of the peoples. Economic and military infusions into Israel — *this dangerous outpost of Imperialism in the Near East* — are intensified . . .

... The third front of Imperialism is Israel. Western capitals invest more and more funds into the economy of Israel, supply it with the latest weapons and incite it to constant provocations and border incidents . . . "

("Moscow and Cairo Handshakes", by Vishenitsky, *Izvestia*, May 19, 1966)

IMPERIALIST AGENT ISRAEL MARCHES ON SYRIA

"From Tel Aviv there pour announcements to the effect that Syria 'is responsible' for the activities of the diversional groups allegedly operating from Syrian territory. *These groups are clear mythical.* The so-called 'retaliatory' steps taken by Israel, however, are fully concrete and of an ill-intentioned nature . . .

("Slander and Armoured Carriers", by E. Baskarov, *Sovietskaya Rossia*, May 21, 1966)

ARAB STATEMENTS

FEAR AND ALARM IN EVERY HOUSE IN ISRAEL

The Syrian Commander-in-Chief in a speech at an Air Force base

"As for the statements of the so-called ministers and officials in Israel that they will punish states which support the commando forces . . . We tell them that we shall wage a liberation war against them as the Party has decided, and fear and alarm will fill every house in Israel."

(Radio Damascus, 12 May, 1966)

The Syrian Minister of Guidance Jamil Shia at Damascus University

"The Palestine problem has entered a new phase, in which the slogan of a popular liberation war has taken on a practical meaning capable of changing Arab and Palestine realities, and transferring the campaign of return from the atmosphere of cheap, political manoeuvres to the plane of practical struggle."

(Radio Damascus, 15 May, 1966)

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. . . In one word, there is no doubt that the ruling circles of Israel continue their tradition of appearing in the unseemly role of agents of Imperialist forces which are worried by the developments in Syria . . . ”

(“Slander and Armoured Carriers”, by S. Baskarov, *Sovietskaya Rossia*, May 21, 1966)

EXTRACT FROM SOVIET NOTE TO ISRAEL, October 25, 1966

“The Soviet government possesses proof of a concentration of Israeli forces recently carried out on the borders with the Arab states. This concentration is of a dangerous nature since it is closely accompanied by a hostile campaign against Syria . . .

“All these acts coincide with the increasing activity of Imperialist forces in the Near East, designed to interfere with the independent development of the Arab states and to create conditions for intervention in their internal affairs . . .

The question arises, are not these same Israeli circles who congregate in hostile positions against neighbouring states trying once again to force the State of Israel and its people to fulfill the function of a mere tool in the hands of the imperialists and non-colonialists in the Near East?”

WASHINGTON — TEL AVIV BRIDGE CARRIES WEAPONS TO DESTROY LIBERATION MOVEMENT

“. . . The current American-Israeli agreement on arms deliveries to Israel ‘has laid a direct bridge between Washington and Tel Aviv’, writes the Syrian paper *Al-Thowra*. This agreement is the third in just the last few months. It differs from the previous ones, however, that this time, as the *New York Times* admits, Israel is getting ‘purely offensive weapons’ — about 200 ‘Patton’ and M-48 type tanks, dozens of ‘F-104’ planes and ‘A-4’ Skyhawk bombers.

“It is not difficult to understand the true intentions of this dirty deal. This is not the first year that the Israeli leadership has claimed the role of the spear-point directed by Imperialism against the heart of the Arab national-liberation movement. Now too, there can be no doubt as to the intentions of the Imperialists: with the help of the Israeli reactionaries they strive to make the situation in the Middle East as grave as possible and to put a brake on the process of progressive social changes in a number of Arab States . . . ”

(“A Bridge to New Provocations”, by E. Baskarov, *Sovietskaya Rossia*, May 27, 1966)

ARAB STATEMENTS

ALL ARABS WILL JOIN POPULAR WAR AGAINST ISRAEL

"When our revolution declared that the way to liberate Palestine is through a popular war, it knew beforehand that the meaning of this declaration is an open and decisive confrontation with Israel. It is one in which not only Syria will take part, but all the Arab revolutionary forces, and the entire Arab people."

(Radio Damascus, 19 May, 1966)

The Syrian Commander-in-Chief Suydani in a speech at the front

"If we build our strategy on the purchase of planes and tanks during the campaign, this theory is false and unfounded. The correct principle lies in the Party's declaration. This is the principle of a war of liberation that is not based on the classical methods. Traditional war, based on superiority of the quantity of arms, will lead us up a blind alley. Hence our only alternative is to launch a war of liberation that is not based on the classical methods. Hence our only alternative is to launch a war of liberation. Algeria will serve us an example, and Viet Nam too is an example that proves our argument sound."

(Radio Damascus, 22 May, 1966)

President Atassi in an address to soldiers on the Israel-Syrian front

"We raise the slogan of the people's liberation war. We know the strength of the forces of reaction and Zionism but at the same time we know the way to stand up against these forces . . .

"We raise the slogan of the people's liberation war. We want total war with no limits, a war that will destroy the Zionist base."

(Radio Damascus, 22 May, 1966)

Syrian War Minister Hafiz Asad in Homs

"We say, we shall never call for, nor accept peace. We shall only accept war and the restoration of the usurped land. We have resolved to drench this land with our blood, to oust you, aggressors, and throw you into the sea for good.

We must meet as soon as possible and fight a single liberation war against Israel, imperialism and all the enemies of the people."

(Radio Damascus, 24 May, 1966)

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... The Egyptian paper *Al Akhbar* reasonably points to the fact that in the USA there has lately been a great intensification of the anti-Arab propaganda campaign and that there are even calls to arm Israel with nuclear weapons ...”

(“A Bridge to New Provocations”, by E. Baskarov, *Sovietskaya Rossia*, May 27, 1966)

ISRAEL STEPS UP PROVOCATIONS AGAINST ARAB STATES

“TASS STATEMENT” is an announcement to the effect that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has approached the member states of the UNO Security Council concerning the worsening of the situation in connection with Syria and the Near East as a whole, arising from an intensification of the activities of the Imperialist and the reactionary forces in the region. After mentioning the CENTO meeting, the conference of the American ambassadors in Beirut and the appearance of the American Sixth Fleet in the territorial waters of the Lebanon, the announcement reads as follows :

“The peoples of the Arab States understand full well the dangers to peace and to their independent development lurking in the new intrigues of the Imperialist Powers, of their reactionary agents in the Near East and of the ruling circles of Israel — in particular, their attempts to intervene in the internal affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic.

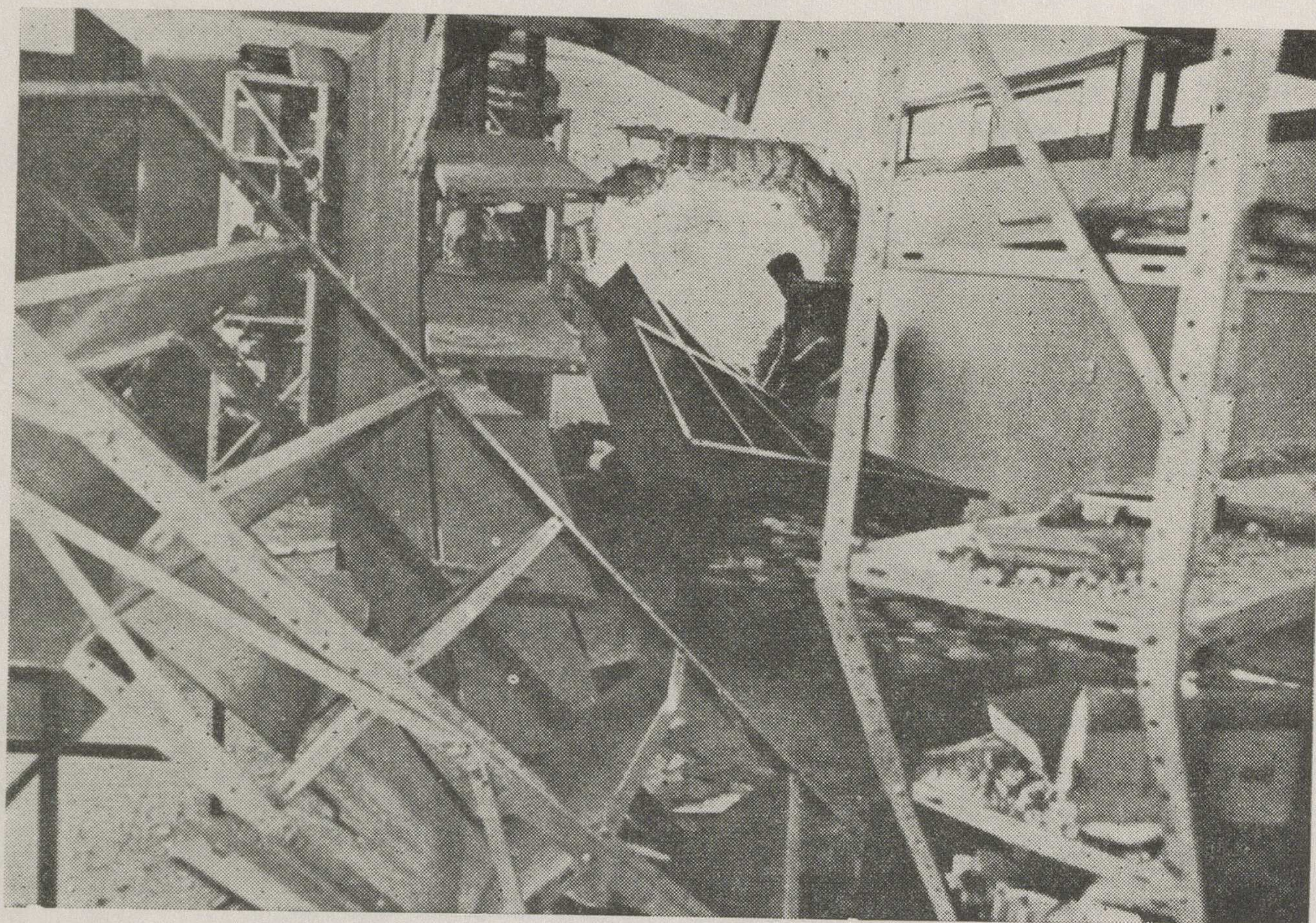
“On its part, the Soviet Union, of course, cannot and will not be indifferent to the attempts of disturbing peace in a region that is situated in the immediate vicinity of the borders of the Soviet Union.”

(*Pravda*, May 28, 1966)

U.S. ARMS ISRAEL TO DESTROY ARABS

“... The USA has announced ‘urgent’ deliveries of arms to Israel ... According to the *New York Times*, the arms in question are ‘A14 Skyhawk’ jet bombers, of the same type as those used in bombing the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The delivery of this ‘purely offensive weapon’, as it is justly described by the paper, exposes the hypocrisy of the official American claims that the USA is allegedly supplying Israel with ‘means of defence only’ ...

“... The present stage in the anti-Arab activity of the aggressive Israeli circles,



For years northern villages were at the mercy of Syrian guns in the hills above.

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in alliance with Western Imperialist forces, is again connected with Syria to a great extent . . .

"... The Chief of Staff Rabin and Minister Alon have come out in Tel Aviv with statements that 'the entire responsibility' for the incidents is borne by — Syria. All this reminds one of October 1956 when, under the pretext of 'attacks' by Palestinian refugees from the territory of the Jordan, Israel started the war against Egypt.

"The American paper *Christian Science Monitor* has recently decided to study the reasons for the tension in the Near East and made an astounding discovery. Moscow, assured the paper, is studying 'the possibilities for a rapprochement with Israel' and this is supposed to be directed against the Arab countries. This astounding sensation of the *Christian Science Monitor* is not just an obvious provocative trick. By such arguments the USA would very much like to cover the subversive and the very dangerous activities of the Imperialist circles of the West against the UAR, Syria and the Republic of Yemen. An essential part of this activity is the sale of American offensive arms to Israel which, as Tel Aviv does not conceal, it intends using against the Arabs."

("Shadows on a Bright Day", by I. Pogodina, *Pravda*, June 6, 1966)

ISRAEL TO OBTAIN NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM IMPERIALISTS

"... In the dangerous game played in the Near East by the Imperialist Powers, the State of Israel is an important trump card. It is not for nothing that the USA, Britain and West Germany are so willing to supply Israel with the most modern arms. The USA has just now presented Israel with planes. In the press there are even rumours that Israel intends obtaining nuclear weapons . . . "

("The Dangerous Game of the Enemies of Peace", by N. Turkatenko, *Babinsky Rabochy*, June 3, 1966)

ARAB STATEMENTS

A POPULAR WAR THE ONLY COURSE

Syrian President Atassi

"We desire the liberation of Palestine and we have planned the way to a popular war to achieve this end."

(Radio Damascus, 11 May, 1966)

The Syrian Premier Zuy'en to Futuwa Youth :

"We shall wage the battle for the liberation of Palestine. We shall also wage battle in every part of the Arab land where imperialism remains . . .

"We have declared in this country that the course for the liberation of Palestine is popular war . . .

"Many peoples in the world have preceded us along this course and have offered thousands of martyrs, finally to triumph. Our reply to those who weaken the people's resolve and who, nevertheless, believe they can liquidate the Palestine question, is that popular war is the only course for the liberation of Palestine."

(Radio Damascus, 10 July, 1966)

ONE THIRD OF ISRAEL ARMY MASSES ON SYRIAN BORDER

"... Under pressure from the USA, the militarists of Israel have also intensified their provocative activities. The military units of the Tel Aviv and Jerusalem districts (a third of the entire military force of the country) have been transferred to the Syrian border. It is characteristic that this was done while the USA Assistant Secretary of State, Hare, was in Israel. Newspapers write, not without grounds, that such provocations are intended to activate the reactionary forces within Syria as well . . . "

("The Arab East — Imperialism and Reaction Activated", by K. Maslov, *Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn*, June 6, 1966)

ISRAEL — NEW IMPERIALIST BASE AGAINST ARABS

"... The United States and other Imperialist Powers are increasing arms deliveries to Israel. This is done under cover of talk about a 'balance of forces' in the Middle East, but actually it signifies the further conversion of Israel into a base of the Imperialist forces spearheaded against the Arab world. What may be called a 'Washington-Bonn-Tel Aviv' Axis is now in the making. The West German revanchists have found understanding and support among Israeli ruling circles and act with them in a united front against those Arab countries which refuse to knuckle under to Washington and Bonn . . . "

("Visiting Friends on the Banks of the Nile", by Victor Mayevsky, *International Affairs*, 7 July, 1966)

ISRAEL EXTREMISTS PLAN WAR ON SYRIA

"... The Syrian Government's independent policy irritates imperialist quarters in the West and the Middle East reactionaries connected with them. Extremist elements have been noticeably more active recently in Israel. The Israeli army has been put in a state of war preparedness and Israeli troops are concentrating on the border with Syria. Aggressive plans are being hatched against Syria by reactionary circles in Jordan and Saudi Arabia with British and American help. A TASS statement declared on May 28 that the Soviet Union could and would not be indifferent to attempts to break the peace in that area . . . "

("Syria after February", by L. Medveko, *International Affairs*, No. 7, July 1966)

ARAB STATEMENTS

WE WILL LIQUIDATE ISRAEL

"We are immune against all deceit or diversion, as regards our internal aims, and our international Arab aims. We have decided quite clearly and simply to adopt the revolutionary method of liberating the Arab homeland from the hands of reaction and colonialism and liquidating Israel by a decisive war . . . "

(Radio Damascus, 15 July, 1966)

ISRAEL WILL PAY DEARLY

Syrian Prime Minister, Yusuf Zuy'en

"The Zionists criminal methods will not affect the march of the revolution and will not be met with the traditional known policy. The popular liberation war which the Palestinian masses, backed by the Arab masses in the whole Arab homeland, have determined to wage, will foil the methods of Israel and those behind it. We say to Israel: 'Our reply will be harsh and you will pay dearly.' The determination of our people to wage the popular war will guarantee the restoration of the usurped homeland."

(Radio Damascus, 16 July, 1966)

"The Zionist and imperialist forces may be sure that by their aggression they will transform us into a continuous state of readiness because they remind us that the Zionist usurpation is still in existence in our land — a usurpation which we have pledged to destroy and liquidate. Israel knows how we can reply to its aggression. Our reply the day before yesterday was clear and strong. We affirm that our future replies will be harsher and stronger. In fact we shall never be the side to be attacked. Israel shall realize that."

(Radio Damascus, 16 July, 1966)

AMERICAN SUPPORT TRIGGERS ISRAEL PROVOCATION

"In connection with the situation on the Israeli-Syrian border, which still remains dangerous, it is notable that the provocative activity of Israel took place almost immediately after Israel started getting large shipments of American arms.

"No less notable is another fact — the bombardment of the Syrian border regions took place just at the time when the USA Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizations, Sisko, was in Tel Aviv and there conducted discussions with Foreign Minister Eban. The presence of the American guest obviously inspired the Tel-Aviv provokers.

"Israel has borders with several Arab countries. This time, however, the provocation has been made against the Syrian Republic. Such a definite target for the bombing leads one to think that someone in Tel-Aviv, as well as in certain imperialist circles beyond the ocean, does not like the course of progressive development chosen by the Syrian people.

"... The essence of the new Israeli provocation is obvious. It is directed against calm and peace in the Near East and against the national liberation movement of the Arabs. But in Tel-Aviv they should not forget that international arbitrariness and the striving to please American imperialists has always met with and will meet with a firm rebuff from all those who are interested in strengthening peace and security in this region of the globe."

("The Provoker", by I. Belyaev, *Pravda*, July 20, 1966)

ISRAEL ATTACK IMPERIALIST INSPIRED

"Israel has long ago become a trump ace in the hands of the imperialist circles in this part of the world. The extremists of Israel willingly play this unseemly role. Analysing the latest Israeli aggression, the Cairo *Al-Akhbar* underlines two basic facts: first of all, the raids of the Israeli Air Force were made immediately after the supplies to Israel of a large quantity of American arms and, secondly, the aggression took place at the time when the Assistant Secretary of State of the USA for International Organizations Sisko, was in Tel Aviv.

"In well-informed circles they remember the last anti-Syrian campaign in May, which had also coincided with the stay in Israel of the Deputy Secretary of State of the USA Hare.



Constant harassment across the borders was how the Arabs observed their solemnly signed Armistice Agreements with Israel.

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"Condemning the Israeli acts of aggression, the public of the Arab countries demands an immediate stop to the insolent provocations.

"A legitimate demand!"

("To Somebody Else's Tune", by B. Kassis, *Izvestia*, July 21, 1966)

ISRAEL-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP CULMINATES IN ATTACK ON SYRIA

"... This time the United States has acted on the sly, with the help of Israel, which acts as its agent in this region... According to the Egyptian press, Washington clearly would like to create something like a "Near-Eastern Vietnam", in order to make possible their open military intervention into the affairs of the Arab countries... The Cairo paper, *Al Akhbar*, considers that it is not at all accidental that the provocation against Syria was undertaken just at the time when the US Assistant Secretary of State, Sisko, was in Tel Aviv and held talks with the Foreign Minister of Israel, Eban. The latest statements made by Eban and by the Prime Minister of Israel, Eshkol, to the effect that American-Israeli friendship has now reached its peak, are also hardly a mere coincidence..."

("A Current Provocation", *Selkskaya Zhizn*, July 23, 1966)

AMERICAN PRESENCE SETS OFF NEW ISRAEL-ARAB CONFLICT

"The situation in Syria, and especially around Syria, is marked by disquiet. Incidents on the Syrian-Israeli border flare up more frequently. During the latest of them, on July 14, Israeli planes bombed areas on the Jordan River, where hydro-engineering construction is under way: an aerial battle was fought and there were casualties..."

"... Local informed circles explain the much bigger activity of the Americans in the East Mediterranean by the changed situation in Syria and the exacerbation of the Arab-Israeli conflict," wrote the Lebanese *Beyrouth Massa*.

("Damascus on Guard", by P. Demchenko, *New Times*, No. 30, July 27, 1966)

ARAB STATEMENTS

SYRIAN STRATEGY — ATTACK

"Citizens, our Arab people, the Syrian revolution will not henceforth complain to the UN. We shall never be in the position of defence or complainer. Israel will be the one on the defensive and the one to complain. The Syrian revolution, which advocated the slogan of a popular war for liberation of Palestine and which is sincerely committed to this slogan, will during the period of preparation for the practical implementation of this slogan always be the force ever ready to meet and chase aggression back to its bases. Israel and all the imperialist forces standing behind it should know that the strategy which Syria is now following in facing the state of aggression is a change from the position of defence to the position of attack to put an end to the Zionist bragging about its alleged supremacy.

Brother citizens, the time has come to use the arms for which our people are paying with their blood and bread to silence the enemy and smash his morale . . . Brother citizens, Arab people, our objectives today were to destroy the forces of aggression and their operational bases in the occupied territory. We have achieved our full objectives. Our objectives in all the coming instances will only be to strike at the positions of aggression within our occupied territory."

(Radio Damascus, 15 August, 1966)

"The argument on which Israel based itself in its aggression, and the Arab reply — bringing down two planes — in addition to the official reply, creates a new and grave situation, which constitutes a dividing line between the traditional Arab handling of the Palestine question for 18 years, and the new phase which necessitates the policy of a popular liberation war as a basis for the systematic handling of the problem. This opens a broad avenue on genuine war."

(Al Ba'ath, 24 July, 1966)

AMERICAN JETS TO REINFORCE IMPERIALIST BASE IN TEL AVIV

"... The West, just like ten years ago during the Suez adventure, allots to Tel Aviv the role of its base in the Near East. The only difference is that before, the USA had tried to refrain from direct participation in the Near Eastern armaments race, so as to preserve the appearance of being "Friends of the Arabs", while now, it has to act in the open. One detail concerning the deal about the sale of American jet bombers to Tel Aviv (concluded, as it is thought, in February of this year and kept secret until a short time ago) has not evaded the notice of observers abroad. The correspondent of the *New York Times*, John Finny, notes that Israel 'has not protested against the agreement for the supply of American arms to the Jordan, or against a similar agreement with Saudi Arabia'.

"Under camouflage of keeping a 'balance of arms' between the Arab countries and Israel, there appear more and more clearly the outlines of two bases of imperialist reaction. On one side, the USA and England place reliance on certain circles in Tel Aviv, (which hadn't drawn due conclusions from the Suez lesson), and on the other, it places reliance on the Arab reactionary regimes with King Feisal at the head. The 'support from the rear' is assured by the Sixth American Fleet (cruising in the Mediterranean) and the British bases . . . "

("The Arab Knot", by A. Vasiliev, *Za Rubezhom*, No. 31,
July 29 to August 4, 1966)

ATTEMPT BY IMPERIALIST TOOL ISRAEL TO THWART ARAB IRRIGATION PLANS

"Gathering in Cairo in January of 1964, the Heads of the Arab States adopted the resolution concerning the implementation of the project of using the Jordan water for the irrigation of the cultivated lands of Jordan, Syria and the Lebanon. The project stipulates the construction of dykes on the Hasbani, Baniyas and Yarmuk rivers, the formation of large water reservoirs and irrigation systems for the watering of cultivated areas, in order to increase greatly the production of food produce.

"The just decision of the Arab States was not to the liking of the extremist circles of Israel, who began to weave webs of intrigues and to make aggressive plans in order to prevent this construction. In order to carry out these plots, the United States supplied arms. At the beginning of this year Israel received from overseas 200 tanks of the 'Patton' make. In June, the Deputy Minister of Defence

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THE SYRIAN ARMY WILL TEACH ISRAEL A LESSON

"The plots of colonialism, Zionism and reaction against Syria will only move the revolutionary policy in the direction of increasing support and assistance for the struggle of the sons of Palestine — the answer of the revolution to this aggressive policy, which coincides with Zionist ambitions . . .

Syria will not confine herself to support the struggle of the Palestinian people for liberation. The Syrian Army itself will teach the State of the gangsters a lesson which will deter Israel from acting against our Arab front. The Syrian Army will continue to be in the vanguard of the struggle for the return to the homeland despite the (armed) concentrations, the aggression and the plots."

(Radio Damascus, 15 August, 1966)

"It is noteworthy that the sound method — whose seriousness and effectiveness in changing the course of events has been proved by historic experience — is the application of a popular liberation war. This method was suggested by the Ba'ath Party and has been adopted by the popular masses, particularly by the masses of our Palestinian Arab people, who have begun to demand the liberation of Palestine — land, people and army, with a decisive battle which will be crowned with a final victory against the occupying Zionist enemy by uprooting it from the Arab region, with the elimination of the remnants of imperialist domination, and with the crushing of the old society and its exploiting classes and ruling reactionary groups which support imperialism and Zionism."

(Radio Damascus, 16 August, 1966)

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of Israel, Dinstein, signed in Washington an agreement on the deliveries of the American 'Skyhawk' bombers to the Israel armed forces. Incidentally, just such bombers, based on American aircraft carriers in Vietnam, are the basis of the air force that attacks Vietnamese patriots."

("The Jordan Water and American Bombs", by A. Flippenko, *Pravda Ukrainy*.
August 7, 1966)

ISRAEL — IMPERIALIST BASE AGAINST ARAB INDEPENDENCE

"... The policy of the aggressive extremist circles of Israel has actually turned this country into an advance post of USA imperialism in the Near East and into a sort of gun directed towards the breast of the independent Arab countries. From Washington to Tel-Aviv there is an increased flow of American 'aid', beginning with agricultural produce and ending with weapons ...

"... In return for all these services, Washington strives to tie Israel even tighter to the American war machine. The South Vietnamese Ambassador in the USA had recently told newspapers reporters about the talks between Saigon and Tel-Aviv (on President Johnson's 'advice') concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations. The Ambassador also spoke about plans to send Israeli military experts to South Vietnam ..."

("With A Far Aim", *Za Rubezhom*, No. 33, August 12—18, 1966)

ISRAEL'S REACTIONARY PLOT AGAINST SYRIA

"On the southern borders of Syria it is again quiet. According to the foreign press, troops are concentrated on the Israeli side of the border, air-force manoeuvres are held and a large number of landing divisions, equipped with light field guns and large-caliber mine-throwers, are being transferred here. In Israel there is a partial mobilisation of the reserves. According to the Lebanese paper *Al-Mukharrir*, 'a decision has been taken to deliver a sudden and powerful blow on the Syrian front; the general staff of the Israeli army is occupied by the working out of a practical plan for this blow.'"

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ANNIHILATION OF ISRAEL

Egyptian Vice-President Abd al Hakim Amer

"The unity of the army will continue to be the decisive factor in establishing stability in order to achieve Arab aims, Arab unity for the annihilation of Israel."

(Cairo Radio, 8 September 1966)

ARMED INTERVENTION IS THE WAY

A responsible Foreign Ministry source has made the following statement :

"... Israel's argument and the declarations of its Premier that they will strike Syria whenever the Palestinian masses make a move — the masses who demand their legal rights — is an invalid argument and would only make war certain, because Syria is not responsible for the defence of Israel's security and does not wish to be. Syria will not restrain the one and quarter million Arabs, who were driven from their homes and who live in the most inhuman conditions, from their struggle for the return."

The Foreign Ministry spokesman added that, on the contrary, Syria's very existence is devoted to that purpose. He said the declarations of the so-called rulers of Israel on continuing to attack Arab territory in Syria, whenever the Palestinian Arab people move to liberate their usurped homeland, would only mean war with all its consequences and the dimensions it might reach.

"The Syrian Arab Republic will not remain silent in the face of these provocations and will reply with all the means at its disposal to protect people's prestige. Syria will also not be responsible for upsetting world peace. Those who back Israel should bear the responsibility for that, and the popular war for liberation, as far as we are concerned, will remain the basic and primary starting point for the liberation of Palestine. No power in the world will be able to prevent the millions, who have been destitute for 18 years, from marching towards their return."

(Damascus Radio, 24 July, 1966)

Syrian Chief of Staff Jadid

"Armed intervention is the way to regain Palestine".

(Damascus Radio, 23 August 1966)

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"The true aims of the new plot of the Israel military against independent Syria have been exposed by the Chief of the General Staff of the Israeli Army, General Rabin. In an interview with a correspondent of the military magazine, *Ba-makhane*, he had unequivocally stated that the so-called 'retaliatory actions' of the armed forces of Israel 'will be directed first of all against the political regime existing in Syria'. It appears that Israeli reactionary militarist circles, no longer content with provoking border incidents, are harbouring plans for a deep armed invasion of Syrian territory to overthrow the Government which exists in that country.

"The peoples of the Arab countries, and in the first place the UAR, Algeria and Iraq, which stand together against the aggressive actions of the Israeli militarists, imperialism and reaction, firmly support the fraternal Syrian people in face of the growing manoeuvres of its enemies against its national independence and social progress. Recently there has come from Cairo to Damascus a delegation of the Supreme command of the united armed forces of the Arab countries headed by the Chief of the General Staff, General Abdel Moneim Riad. According to agencies of information, this delegation will hold talks with the proper Syrian leaders with the aim of coordinating the activities of the united Arab armed forces.

"All this shows that the Syrian people will not be alone in case of an unprovoked aggression against it and of encroachments on its sovereignty and national independence. Together with the Arab peoples and all peace-loving States, the Soviet Union follows vigilantly the developments in the parts of the Middle East which lie in the immediate vicinity of its frontiers."

("General Rabin Rattles his Sabre", by R. Petrov, *Pravda*, October 10, 1966)

EXTRACT FROM SOVIET NOTE TO ISRAEL, October 12, 1966

"According to information in our possession, concentration of Israeli troops can again be discerned along the Syrian frontier, and preparations are being made for an air attack on the areas bordering the Syrian frontier, so that in its wake Israeli troops may penetrate deep into Syria. The Chief of Staff of the Israel Defence Forces recently announced in public that Israel's military preparations 'will be directed first and foremost against the present regime in Syria'. These acts

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SYRIAN WAR OBJECTIVES

Syrian War Minister Dr. Zuy'en

"To emphasize the popular war of liberation as a starting point for the liberation of Palestine from the Zionists . . . the deepening of ties with the socialist camp and the countries of the third world . . ."

(Damascus Radio, 17 October 1966)

Syrian Ambassador in Baghdad

"Syria can on no account restrain the enthusiasm of the Palestinian people in the struggle to regain their legal right."

(Baghdad Radio, 15 October 1966)

NEW AGGRESSIVE SYRIAN POLICY

Columnist Michel Abu Jawdeh said that while Syria appeared to have gained Palestinian and Arab peoples' sympathies during the last couple of weeks, it caused worry on the part of twelve Arab governments.

"Arab official policy toward Israel during the past 18 years was based on repelling aggression and complaining . . . nobody heard of a modern state declaring that it is going to be the aggressor or that it is going to apply an aggressive policy," Abu Jawdeh said. He added, "This is why war ministries came to be known as 'defence ministries', but the Syrian government which includes a 'defence' ministry has now declared that its policy towards Israel will be an aggressive one. 'We are not going to resort to the United Nations any more,' the Syrian explained."

(Al-Nahar, 22 August, 1966)

Syrian Commander-in-Chief Suydani eulogising the pilot killed in the Sea of Galilee operation

". . . You are the saintly hero. You were the first to fall in the first battle in which the shackles were broken — the shackles of hesitation and laggardliness — shackles which inhibited our thoughts, since each time we found ourselves in a defensive stance. But now, in the battle in which you took part, we were, as all are aware, not responding to blows, but delivering blows. You were the hero, you and your comrades, the brave soldiers of the Arab people who spare no

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bear witness to the ceaseless attempts of extremist circles in Israel to increase their operations against neighbouring Arab states with independent policies, and particularly against the Syrian Arab Republic . . ."

ISRAEL PLANS OVERTHROW OF SYRIAN REGIME

" . . . It is evident that the activation of the Israeli press was intended to coincide with this. Virtually on the eve of the plot, the Chief of the General Staff of the Israeli Army said that Tel-Aviv's aim is the overthrow of the regime existing in Syria. Till this day several Israeli Army brigades are concentrated on the border with Syria . . ."

("Lessons from a Plot", by E. Primakov, *Pravda*, October 13, 1966)

ISRAEL IN PLOT AGAINST PROGRESSIVE SYRIAN REGIME

" . . . It is again unquiet in the Arab East. The clouds are thickening over Syria. The tension on the border with Saudi Arabia and the Jordan is growing. In constant stream there follow one another militaristic calls from Jordanian, Saudi and Israeli leaders. The events of the last few days indubitably testify to the fact that Arab reactionaries and Israeli militarists, supported by Washington and London, make a united front against the progressive Arab countries . . ."

The author also reports the interview given by King Hussein, in which he expressed his readiness to bring Jordan troops into Syria in the event of an attack on Syria by Israel. He also repeats the allegation (made by Primakov in *Pravda* on October 8 and by Koryavin in *Izvestia* on October 9), that Israel forces are supposed to provoke border incidents which will serve as an excuse for Jordanian armed intervention in Syria.

("The Bay of Pigs Sounds a Warning", by N. Smirnov, *Bakinsky Rabochy*, October 15, 1966)

ISRAEL PUTS UP SMOKE-SCREEN TO HIDE PROVOCATIONS AGAINST SYRIA

"The question about Syrian aggression has been artificially raised by Israel, evidently in order to divert the attention of world public opinion from its own

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mercy for the attackers. The Arab people, the Syrian people, and the Syrian Army are proud of you, and the readiness for self-sacrifice that you displayed. You are the victim of the liberation of the Arab homeland. This country is now suffering from imperialism and its agents because of its brave stand, and because it follows the correct road for the liberation of the Arab people and the removal of dissension and backwardness."

(Radio Damascus, 19 August, 1966)

Syrian President Atassi in Aleppo

"... The recent operations carried out by the People's Army on the border were intended to make it clear to the enemy that any move he makes in the future will not have assured results, and that our rejoinder will not limit itself to the area of aggression alone, but will take in vital targets within the conquered territory. We regard this situation as a most important turning point, as regards the facts of the situation on the Arab-Israel front. Witness thereto the vilification campaigns of the Zionist leaders and their (propaganda) organs. The matter has started entering a serious phase, which implies preparations, appraisal of prospects, and watchfulness.

"The revolution is proud of the response on the part of popular and official circles of all kinds to mobilise under the flag of the popular liberation war, ready for any sacrifice, till Palestine becomes Arab once again. We have decided to translate the mounting wave of popular feeling into practical terms."

(Radio Damascus, 20 August, 1966)

"Syria has resolved to pursue its way, and continue preparing itself to bring about the liberation by a popular revolutionary war. Our last punitive operations were none other than the stroke of an alarm bell, warning the bandit state that the hour of liberation is drawing near and that the Arab masses are tired of waiting.

... Syria has resolved to launch the campaign. She is convinced of victory, because all the Arab masses are behind her, tensed for action. Behind Syria, too, stand her friends in the Socialist camp."

(Radio Damascus, 18 August, 1966)

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provocations on the Syrian border. It is noteworthy that just at the time when last week Israel appealed to the Security Council with its complaint, young ruffians from the active youth branch in the USA of the Israeli pro-fascist party 'Herut', had 'strengthened' the plaint by a pogrom in the Syrian mission to the UN in New York. As has become known, those who have taken part in the pogrom are now at liberty. They have been released on bail by the police."

The same item, in a somewhat elaborated version (giving also the statements of the representatives of Bulgaria, Argentina and Japan) appears also in *Sovietskaya Litva* (Vilna daily, in Russian) on October 19, 1966.

("A Diversional Manoeuvre", *Pravda Ukrainy*, October 19, 1966)

IMPERIALISTS ENCOURAGING ISRAEL TO ATTACK SYRIA

"The situation in the Near East remains very tense. Israel, encouraged by the imperialists, is pursuing a war policy against Syria and turning this region into a highly tense area. Israel openly threatens war against the Syrian Arab Republic on the pretext that groups of Palestinian refugees are infiltrating its territory from Syria to carry out sabotage. The Syrian delegate spoke about this question at the Security Council but declared, however, that his country was not responsible for the growth of Palestinian refugee organisations which are struggling to return 1,000,000 Arab refugees to their homeland and recover their rights in the territory usurped by Israel as a result of the Palestine war in 1948. Nevertheless, Tel-Aviv continues to play the same old, worn-out record.

"Certain aspects of the present tense situation in the Near East resemble the situation in 1956, when the triple imperialist aggression against Egypt was being prepared. The accusations made against Syria now by Israel and the imperialists who are hiding behind it, are similar to the accusations which preceded the treacherous attack on Egypt. It is well known that the existence of the feda'iyyin — groups of armed Palestinian refugees — and their activities were the immediate pretext in October 1956 for the attack by Israeli forces on Egyptian territory, which was followed by the movement of British and French forces towards Egypt. It is also very obvious that Israel, which is showing an extremely warlike spirit, is similarly now counting first and foremost on the support of the Western Powers. This was shown once again by the debate of Israel's completely false complaint against Syria in the Security Council in the middle of this month, for the Western Powers openly adopted a partisan attitude towards Israel's false diplomatic effort and exerted every effort to encourage its aggressive attempts.

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Ahmed Suydani

"The Ba'ath Party is destruction to reaction and to the treason called Israel."
(*Damascus Radio*, 23 August 1966)

The Commander of the Egyptian Land Forces to Nasser

"The Land Forces declare their complete willingness to enter all wars, both hot and cold, in cooperation with their brothers in the land forces and the air force."
(*Cairo Radio*, October 1966)

"The Syrian people will light the fire of the popular war of liberation, when Israel attacks Syria."

(*Al Thowra*, Damascus, November 1966)

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“The reason for this is obvious, for Israel’s conduct is a reflection of the imperialist policy of these Powers and of their reactionary agents in the Near East . . . ”

(“Israel’s Threats Against Syria”, Radio commentary in Arabic
16.00 GMT 25 October 1966)

ISRAEL’S PART IN IMPERIALIST PLOT AGAINST SYRIA

“. . . The atmosphere around Syria is rapidly becoming hotter. The Lebanese papers, often very well informed about the situation in the neighbouring Arab countries, almost daily publish reports about the concentration of Israel troops on the Syrian border and appraise the situation on the Syrian-Jordanian border as tense.

“This past week the threads of the plot against Syria have become particularly obvious. Israel has informed the UNO about the ‘exceedingly dangerous situation’ on its borders with Syria, while its diplomats, in the corridors of this international organization, are preparing ground for the justification of aggression . . . ”

(“The Plot Against Syria — An Attempt Against the Republic”,
Za Rubezhom, October 21-27, 1966)

ISRAEL — THE IMPERIALISTS’ TOOL AGAINST SYRIA

“All the signs are there that under the cover of peace-loving phrases, the aggressive extremist forces of Israel are preparing an armed attack on Syria. The noisy propaganda attack on the revolutionary government of Syria, organized by the Israel reactionaries and their protectors in the international arena, serve as a smoke screen for the projected crime . . .

“. . . All these pronouncements about the El-Fatah units, about the hostile propaganda against Israel on the part of Syria and about the fictitious necessity for some sort of preventive and allegedly ‘defensive’ actions, cannot deceive anyone who is acquainted with the true state of affairs and with the latest events in this region . . . In the summer of 1956, before the shameful adventure in Suez, all these tunes sounded . . . from the pages of the Israeli and the English and the American press and from the lips of the Israeli diplomats. Has the imagination of some of the politicians and of the military leaders of Israel grown so poor that



Arab mine explodes on an Israeli football field.

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they think it possible to play this old, worn out record once more, almost without any changes? . . . It is clear that under the present conditions, the provocations against Syria are necessary not to Israel but, entirely and exclusively, to the outside imperialist forces and to the foreign oil monopolies, irritated by the strengthening of a progressive government in Syria."

("Isn't It Time for Second Thought?", *Izvestia*, November 7, 1966)

EXTRACT FROM SOVIET NOTE TO ISRAEL, November 9, 1966

"... more than once the Soviet government has drawn the attention of the Israeli government to the danger of the worsening of the situation in the Near East which has been brought about by the Imperialist powers, who have long been trying to use Israel in their plans to fight independent Arab states . . . Prime Minister Eshkol, in his talk, tried to blame the Syrians for the worsening of the situation. But how can one speak of Syrian responsibility when Israel continues actively, against a background of declarations designed to convince (the world) of her peaceful intentions, to mold public opinion (towards) preparation for a militant attack on Syria, and when the present worsening of the situation coincides with increased activity of foreign imperialist forces, who are trying to intervene in the internal affairs of the Syrian state, organise conspiracies against her and are not ashamed to declare openly that they are dissatisfied with the present regime in Syria and that their interests would be better served if circles, connected with western oil monopolies and well-known imperialist powers, were to rise to power.

"The timing of the incidents which, according to the Israeli Government's memorandum, recently occurred on Israeli soil, and which resulted in loss of life, and are aforementioned devices of the said powers, can only lead one to wonder to what extent it is possible that this type of incident was organised expressly by well-known services, or by agencies of these services for provocation purposes. History has examples of such provocations. Can they be accepted lightly by the nations?"

ISRAEL'S AIM — OVERTHROW OF SYRIAN REGIME

"... When nine days ago Eshkol, the Prime Minister of Israel, announced that the term of military service would be prolonged, he promised that this innova-

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ISRAEL MUST GO

Egyptian Vice-President Amer in Pakistan

“The aggressive Israeli existence is the clear embodiment of a depraved humanity which must be uprooted.”

(Cairo Radio, 8 December 1966)

Egyptian Vice-President Amer in Pakistan

“The artificial Israeli existence must disintegrate before combined Arab strength.”

(Cairo Radio, 9 December 1966)

tion would be abolished 'when it becomes possible'. However, news soon came testifying to the fact that the military plans of Tel-Aviv are being worked out in a direction contrary to such 'possibilities'. On the 13th of November units of the regular Israeli army made a raid on Jordanian territory.

"A short time ago Israel had complained to the Security Council about Syria, which allegedly is creating tension on the border. The Israeli provocations of the last few days show once more who is to blame for this tension. Although the first blow has been delivered against the territory of Jordan, the true target of the Israeli militarists is certainly Syria. As far back as September, the Chief of Staff of the Israeli Army, General Rabin, stated that his government's aim was 'change of the Syrian regime'.

"The progressive changes in Syria have long worried the imperialist West, which has repeatedly tried, with Israeli hands, to create difficulties for the regime in Damascus. Lately the authority of this regime in the Arab world was considerably strengthened — partly due to the rapprochement between Cairo and Damascus in their joint fight against imperialism and reaction. Isn't this what has given birth to the new spate of provocations undertaken by Israel?"

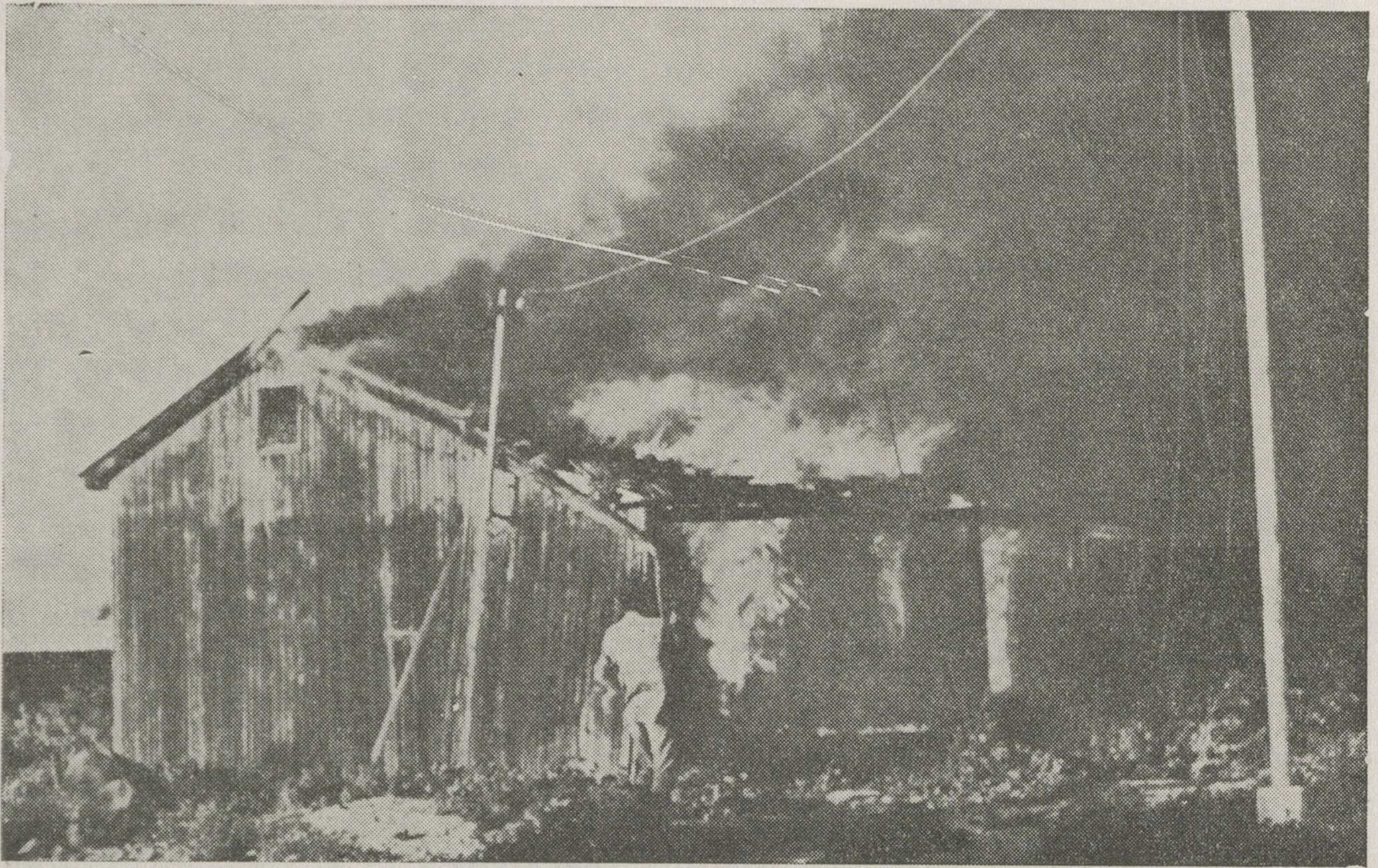
("And They Complained to the UNO", by I. Pogodina, *Pravda*
November 17, 1966)

ISRAEL ARMY AIMS TO TOPPLE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT

". . . This is the second month that there is trouble in the Near East. Israel's provocations on the borders with the Arab States, the entry of the Saudi troops into Jordan during anti-government demonstrations there, the acute conflict between the Iraq Petroleum Company (IPC) and the Syrian government — all this has heated the atmosphere in this region . . .

". . . The Israeli military have made a considerable 'contribution' to the creation of tension. The Israeli Chief of Staff, General I. Rabin, frankly announced that their aim was to overthrow the present regime in Syria. The Jordan and the Saudi reactionary forces have been constantly pouring oil on the flames. Its hatred for the progressive forces in Damascus is heated by the British and the American Oil Trusts . . . A groups of British ships-of-war made an 'Official Visit' to the Israeli port of Haifa . . ."

("Oil Again", by I. Pogodina, *Pravda*, December 18, 1966)



Sabotage raid on an Israeli village

ISRAEL — SHOCK-FORCE OF IMPERIALISM IN MIDDLE EAST

“... The situation is extremely tense, especially in relations between Israel and the Arab countries . . . The Arab East is now the scene of sharp conflicts between the forces of reaction and progress. . . . It emanates first of all from Israel, imperialism's chief shock-force in the Middle East.

“The Israeli intrusion into Jordan on November 13 was meant more as a political than military provocation, as a warning to Syria, which the Israel government describes as the ‘chief instigator of the terrorist movement’ in the Arab East. Israeli policy makers apparently felt sure that their venture would go unpunished. The blow was not really aimed at King Hussein of Jordan, and presumably he was aware of that. At any rate, it was revealed at the recent emergency meeting in Cairo of the Joint Arab Defence Council that during the Israeli aggression Jordan refused to permit a joint Arab force on her territory and did not arm the population of the regions bordering on Israel . . .

“... Some Western newspapers suggest that the Israeli leaders were confident that King Hussein would react in this way. In fact, it is being said that the whole action was undertaken to further complicate Hussein's relations with other Arab governments . . .

“... The rulers of Jordan and Saudi Arabia have the support of the US and British imperialists, who regard them as trusted defenders of their interests and are supplying them with modern weapons . . . The Israeli attack provided an excellent pretext for this renewed arms drive. Perhaps that was one of the purposes of the attack . . .”

(“Centre of Tension in the Arab East”, by M. Kremnev, *New Times*, No. 51, December 21, 1966)

ISRAEL THREATENS SYRIA

“Shots were heard on the Syrian-Israeli border during the entire first week of the new year. And literally a few days before the start of the spate of incidents, the Chief of the Israeli General Staff, General I. Rabin, had again made a threatening statement against the neighbours of Israel. In an interview to the paper *Yedioth Akhronoth*, he promised ‘to advise the government of Israel to undertake further actions on the borders, if this becomes necessary’. The general is not embarrassed by the fact that the UNO Security Council had recently condemned

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SYRIA REFUSES TO CURB TERRORISTS

Syrian Minister of War, Hafez Assad

"Syria will not restrain the activities of the fedayeen (terrorist gangs — trans.) even if they lead to armed conflict between Syria and Israel."

(Al-Siad, Lebanon, 26 January 1967)

Syrian Minister of the Interior M. Asawi

"Syria has changed her strategy as regards Israel and has passed from defence to attack. When Israel fired a shot, we returned it with cannon fire and tanks, and with rockets fired from planes. The engagements by the ideological army of Syria during the last few days bear witness to the fact that we shall teach Israel lessons she will not forget. We shall continue to wage war until Israel disappears."

(Damascus Radio, 15 January 1967)

Syrian President Atassi

"We repelled Israeli aggression and shall continue to repel it for the battle before us is extensive and decisive."

(The Palestine Liberation Organisation, 16 January 1967)

Israel for its attack on three Jordanian villages and had warned it that in case of a repetition of similar actions, the Council would be forced to undertake more effective measures.

"The provocations by the Israeli militarists, the violent anti-Syrian attacks of the Jordanian reactionaries, the malicious campaign against Damascus conducted by the bourgeois press, the economic blackmail of the West — all these are links of the same chain . . ."

("The Links of One Chain", by I. Pogodina, *Pravda*, January 9, 1966)

ISRAEL PATROLS SHOOT AT SYRIANS

" . . . Almost every week, either from one or the other shore of the lake, there is the sound of shots troubling the peaceful surface of the lake . . . As can be seen from the official communiqués of the Syrian command, the instigators of these border incidents are the Israeli patrols. They have repeatedly shot at Syrian peasants working in the zone bordering on the neutral strip of the frontier. Several persons have been wounded. In order to protect the peaceful work of the peasants, the Syrian side had been obliged to open answering fire on the Israel positions. . . . In the Western press, the latest incidents are called 'seasonal', as they allegedly are caused by the start of the winter agricultural work . . . In Syria, however, the increasingly frequent conflicts on the borders with Israel are connected not with the short season of the work, but rather with the long 'season of plots' which are incessantly being woven around the country by Imperialists and by Arab reaction. The Syrian press points to the direct ties between the increasingly frequent provocations on the part of the Israeli militarists and the plots against Syria on the part of the Imperialists, because of its challenge to the foreign oil monopolies.

"In the official statement of the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in the article of the Syrian permanent representative in the UN, it is said in connection with the latest incidents on the Syrian-Israeli frontier that the entire responsibility for all these armed conflicts falls on the aggressive circles of Israel. It is these circles that 'act in the interests of the Western oil monopolies and the reactionary rulers of Jordan'."

("There is no Peace on the Shores of Lake Tiberias", by L. Medveko
Izvestia, January 18, 1966)

TABLE OF SABOTAGE ACTIVITIES FROM ARAB COUNTRIES

3 Jan. 65 - 8 May 67

Y E A R S	1 9 6 5					1 9 6 6					Jan. 67 - 8 May 67					T O T A L 3 Jan. 65 - 8 May 67				
DETAILS																				
BORDERS THROUGH WHICH INFILTRATORS ENTERED.	Total Sabotage & Mining Activities	Successful Sabotage & Mining Activities	Attempted Sabotage & Mining Activities	Israeli casualties		Total Sabotage & Mining Activities	Successful Sabotage & Mining Activities	Attempted Sabotage & Mining Activities	Israeli casualties		Total Sabotage & Mining Activities	Successful Sabotage & Mining Activities	Attempted Sabotage & Mining Activities	Israeli casualties		Total Sabotage & Mining Activities	Successful Sabotage & Mining Activities	Attempted Sabotage & Mining Activities	Israeli casualties	
				Killed	Wounded				Killed	Wounded				Killed	Wounded				Killed	Wounded
S Y R I A	-	-	-	-	-	18	12	6	7	17	13	6	7	1	3	31	18	13	8	20
J O R D A N	29	23	6	-	16	17	14	3	3	19	13	4	9	-	-	59	41	18	3	35
L E B A N O N	3	3	-	-	7	6	4	2	-	-	11	4	7	-	-	20	11	9	-	-
E G Y P T	3	1	2	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	1	2	-	7
TOTAL	35	27	8	-	23	41	30	11	10	36	37	14	23	1	3	113	71	42	11	62

ISRAEL TO BLAME FOR BORDER STRIFE WITH SYRIA

“... On the Israeli-Syrian border there is trouble again. Explosions of mines, laid by some ‘malefactors’ and exchanges of fire remind one that someone is again interested in intensifying the tension in the Near East. When one fingers the pages of the latest issues of Tel Aviv newspapers, then Syria appears to carry the blame for it all. However, when one reads carefully some of the not-at-all peace-loving declarations of the Israeli politicians and military, one is forced to reach an entirely different conclusion. What was the need, for instance, of the statement that ‘Syria does not possess inviolability’ made by the Israeli Prime-Minister, L. Eshkol ?

“This is a reasonable question, because the appearance of similar statements explains a lot. It is evident that those who artificially create a troubled atmosphere on the Israeli-Syrian border wish to frighten Syria and to overthrow its progressive regime . . . Now they want to distract world attention from everything connected with the oil crisis.

“It is absolutely clear that this is only a part of the task that the lovers of adventure on the Israeli-Syrian border have undertaken. To the sound of shooting there, the United States intends to increase considerably military aid to Jordan. This would make King Hussein stronger and would create a sort of bastion of defence on the border of Saudi-Arabia and, at the same time, would create a cause for new quarrels among the Arabs themselves . . . something that the United States and Britain might make use — of course, to the detriment of the struggle for liberation of the Arabs.

“Such is the under-lining of the new round of clashes on the Israeli-Syrian border . . . ”

(“To the Sound of Shooting”, by Igor Belyaev, *Pravda*, January 18, 1967)

ARAB STATEMENTS

ONLY BY WAR

Syrian President Atassi

"... we are preparing ourselves for a popular war of liberation . . . we devised this slogan in full knowledge of its severity and its implications . . . a popular war of liberation is the real danger for imperialism and Zionism . . . the shameful crime, which led to the occupation of Palestine, cannot be obliterated from Arab history except by the arms of the Arab workers when they enter a popular war of liberation. The Palestine problem will not be solved except in the heart of the occupied territory itself. It is impossible to solve it except by means of war of liberation . . ."

(Damascus Radio, 8 February 1967)

ISRAEL TO SPEARHEAD IMPERIALIST ATTACK ON SYRIA

"The weather in Israel is cold. There has even been snow, something that is quite rare for this part of the world. But even this unaccustomed cold cannot cool the hot heads of the Israeli extremists.

"The armed forces of Israel are being put in readiness for battle. All military personnel have had their leaves cancelled and additional contingents of reservists have been called up. Large military forces have been concentrated on the northern border. Border incidents, that began on the New Year's eve, have not yet stopped.

"Israeli ruling circles are inciting public opinion, making appeals to the UNO, demanding the undertaking of urgent measures against the 'threat' allegedly hanging over Israel. What then has evoked the new military psychosis in the State of Israel ? . . .

". . . The imperialists and their agents do not like the present revolutionary regime in Syria. Besides the economic and political blackmail, they make use of threats of direct military aggression against Syria. An active role in this military plot is assigned to Israel . . .

". . . In the plans of this aggression a definite place is assigned to the foreign policy departments of Israel, on which has been placed the quite 'delicate assignment' of preparing public opinion abroad for the planned attack on Syria. Israeli diplomats are trying to distort the true facts and to accuse Syria of violating peace on the Israeli-Syrian frontier. But it is difficult to conceal the true situation behind this verbal demagoguery. The facts show that it is Israel who, to please its Western protectors, is provoking border conflicts and increasing tension in this region."

("Extremist Do Not Calm Down", by M. Liudkowsky, *Izvestia*, February 3, 1967).

ISRAEL PROVOKES BORDER CLASHES WITH SYRIA

". . . An important question, diligently followed in Damascus, is the situation on the Syrian-Israeli frontier. Until now, there took place three military clashes between the two sides, provoked by the extremist circles of Israel. As is known, as a result of the 1949 armistice agreement, three demilitarized zones were created in the border region between Syria and Israel . . . Although these zones are controlled by UN observers . . . it is there that the main military clashes take place. Now, on the Syrian-Israeli frontier . . . for the first time in seven years

ARAB STATEMENTS

SYRIAN RAIDS TO CAUSE ISRAEL'S DOWNFALL

Minister of War Hafez Assad

“ . . . the Zionist robbers must thus stop their threats and aggression, for if not, we shall carry out continual, extensive punishment raids which will bring about the beginning of the end of Israel . . . ”

(Damascus Radio, 14 February 1967)

there are sessions of the Syrian-Israeli mixed armistice commission, called on the initiative of the UN Secretary-General . . . However, the Syrian political observers are concerned at the position taken by Israel. Firstly, its representatives beginning from 1951 had in fact regularly boycotted the work of the mixed commission. Secondly, they come out with claims for the demilitarized zones and, what is most important, they are taking practical steps in this direction, committing acts of aggression against Syria.

“This political line taken by Israel causes a just reaction in Syria. It is true, the official representative of the Syrian government has stated that Syria, sitting down at the conference table, ‘in advance decisively denies Israel’s claims on the demilitarized zone, that these claims are devoid of any foundation and are in contradiction to the conditions of the armistice agreement’. Moreover, the radio Damascus commentator stresses : ‘One cannot fail to note that Israel, agreeing to the calling of the mixed commission, has at the same time made a number of new statements containing threats against Syria’ . . .”

(“The Winds of Damascus”, by L. Koryavin, *Izvestia*, February 7, 1967)

ISRAEL’S ROLE IN REACTIONARY PLOT AGAINST SYRIA

“Similar reports about armed clashes on the borders between the Arab States and Israel have not been infrequent of late. And this is not a question of incidents having a merely local significance . . .

“. . . A special role in these plots is reserved for the reactionary rulers of Saudia Arabia and Israel, who are more tied to the Imperialist Powers and who have expansionist aims in this region . . .

“. . . Israel, egged on by the Anglo-American imperialists, conducts an aggressive and provoking policy towards Syria. The attempt to cause a military coup in Syria, the demonstrative concentration of Israeli troops on the Syrian border, the exchanges of fire and, finally, the statement made in Parliament on November 8, 1966, by the Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, Levi Eshkol, to the effect that the duration of military service in Israel was again increased from 24 to 30 months — all these are links of the same chain of provocations against Syria . . .”

(“Imperialists’ Intrigues Meet with Rebuff”, by V. Mironchuk, *Rabochaya Gazeta*, April 11, 1967).



Driving the Jews into the sea : Cover of a Syrian text-book

ISRAEL AIR-ACTION INFLAMES BORDER SITUATION

"... It began thus: an Israeli tractor — for the third time in one week — entered the controversial demilitarized zone. The local Syrian authorities lodged a protest, which was ignored. An exchange of fire began between the frontal border posts.

"Such clashes are not rare here. But this time, the matter did not end with mere exchange of fire. With an obvious wish to inflate the incident, the Israeli Command put its jet air-force into action. As the Prime Minister Eshkol said, the use of the air force 'became necessary' because of the 'topographical superiority' of the Syrians in the border region. The Israeli pilots, however, were given freedom of action 'up to the very outskirts of Damascus'. In addition, Gen. Rabin hinted that the Israeli Army was capable of wider actions.

"International Imperialism, putting into action all the levers of its political machine in the Arab East, gives one of the leading roles to the Israeli militarists. Even at the beginning of this year, during Syria's conflict with the Iraq Petroleum Company, the Israeli press repeatedly hinted at an 'actual possibility' of a direct military clash with Syria and announced Israel's right to carry out its policies and strengthen its positions 'by word and by deed'...

"Syria was victorious in its fight with the oil monopolies... This aroused the anger of the oil magnates of the West and they decided to 'punish' Syria. The Lebanese paper *An-Nida* stated that 'Israel's aggression against Syria had been decided upon at the conference of American diplomats in Beirut in March of this year and that it is an act of vengeance against the Syrian people for its victory over the Iraq Petroleum Company. The Syrian paper *Al-Thowra* also writes that it was the United States that was the initiator of the Lake Tiberias battle...

"The armed provocation against Syria is one of the planned links in the general chain of plots of imperialism, reaction and Zionism..."

("Syria gives Rebuff", by O. Ivanov, *Krasnaya Zvezda*, April 12, 1967)

AMERICANS JOIN ISRAEL AIR RAIDS ON SYRIA

"Very important new details have emerged in reports about the Syrian-Israeli armed clash caused by Israel on 7th April. For one thing it has become clear that American pilots participated in the air raids on Syria. The Syrian authorities were

شوقدوسند
قائم الميشن المي
م
م

CHECKED AND APPROVED BY
COMMANDER OF SYRIAN FORCE

P L A N

Attack Operation against Israel
by joint Syrian-Lebanese forces

Scope of Operation: Width of
attack area - 55-75 km.

Duration - 6 days

Estimated average rate of advance -
20-25 km. per day

Participating Forces:

Infantry and armoured units

HAIFA - حيفا

T A S K

Attack towards Safed-Nazareth by
Syrians, with Lebanese support

Arrival in coastal plain
within 5 days

Capture of oil district (Haifa)

Depth of attack: 70-75 km.

SOVIET STATEMENTS

told of this by one of the American pilots, whose aircraft was shot down while the Israeli attack was being repelled. The statement by the American pilot who fell into the hands of the Syrian authorities indicates that Israel has concluded a deal with the USA to import aircraft and other military equipment. In compliance with a request from Washington, Jordan has granted Israel the right to use air space without restrictions.

"These facts indicate once more that Israel's aggressiveness is but a curtain behind which Washington pursues its aggressive policy towards the independent Arab States. The American imperialist resorts to such plans in other areas of the world where their selfish interests are in conflict with the interests of the people living there"

("That's How It Started in Vietnam", Radio commentary from Moscow in Arabic, (16.00 GMT 11 April 1967))

EXTRACT FROM SOVIET NOTE TO ISRAEL, April 21, 1967

"On various occasions, the Soviet government has expressed its attitude to developments in the Middle East and has delivered a suitable warning. The Soviet government sees no necessity to repeat it now.

"The world has again expected aggression by Israel, which has shown a tendency to embark upon ventures constituting a grave danger to peace. This particular instance can only create the impression that the military action of 7th April constitutes a part of those reprisals taken against the Syrian people by Imperialist forces who were disappointed by the brave struggle against the oil monopolies. As regards the Israeli attack of 7th April, the Soviet government sees the necessity to repeat its warning to Israel that her risk-laden policies implemented for the past few years against her neighbours are pregnant with dangers, and she must bear full responsibility for them.

"The Soviet Government expects the Israeli government to weigh the existing situation carefully and hopes that she will avoid being used by those circles whose political impatience makes them willing to turn their country into a puppet of foreign enemy forces, thus endangering the essential interests of their state."

ARAB STATEMENTS

WIPE ISRAEL OFF THE MAP

Commentary

"The Arab people are determined to wipe Israel off the map and to return Arab honour to Palestine."

(Cairo Radio, 25 May 1967)

U.S. IMPERIALISM FEEDS ZIONIST VIPER

"General Declaration"

"... In Palestine, the heart of the Arab World and indeed of the Near East as a whole, they are consolidating Israel as a base of imperialist aggression. Here, at the junction of the two continents of Africa and Asia, imperialism, in alliance with Zionism has built up aggressive racist forces which are being used as an instrument of provocation and conspiracy to suppress the aspirations of the peoples to freedom and progress in this part of the world . . .

"... Imperialism will not succeed in hiding its real nature, especially American imperialism, which is the most malicious, the most treacherous and cruel imperialism of the age. This has been proved in Vietnam . . . This has also been proved in Palestine, where U.S. imperialism is generously feeding the Zionist viper, in violation of justice and every human right . . .

"... We solemnly declare our full support for the inalienable and legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine . . ."

Resolution on Counteracting Imperialist and Neo-Colonialist Infiltration in the Cultural Field

The conference recommends :

"... Countering reactionary and racist movements which violate cultural and human values, such as Zionism which is a tool of imperialism and serves its aggressive aims . . ."

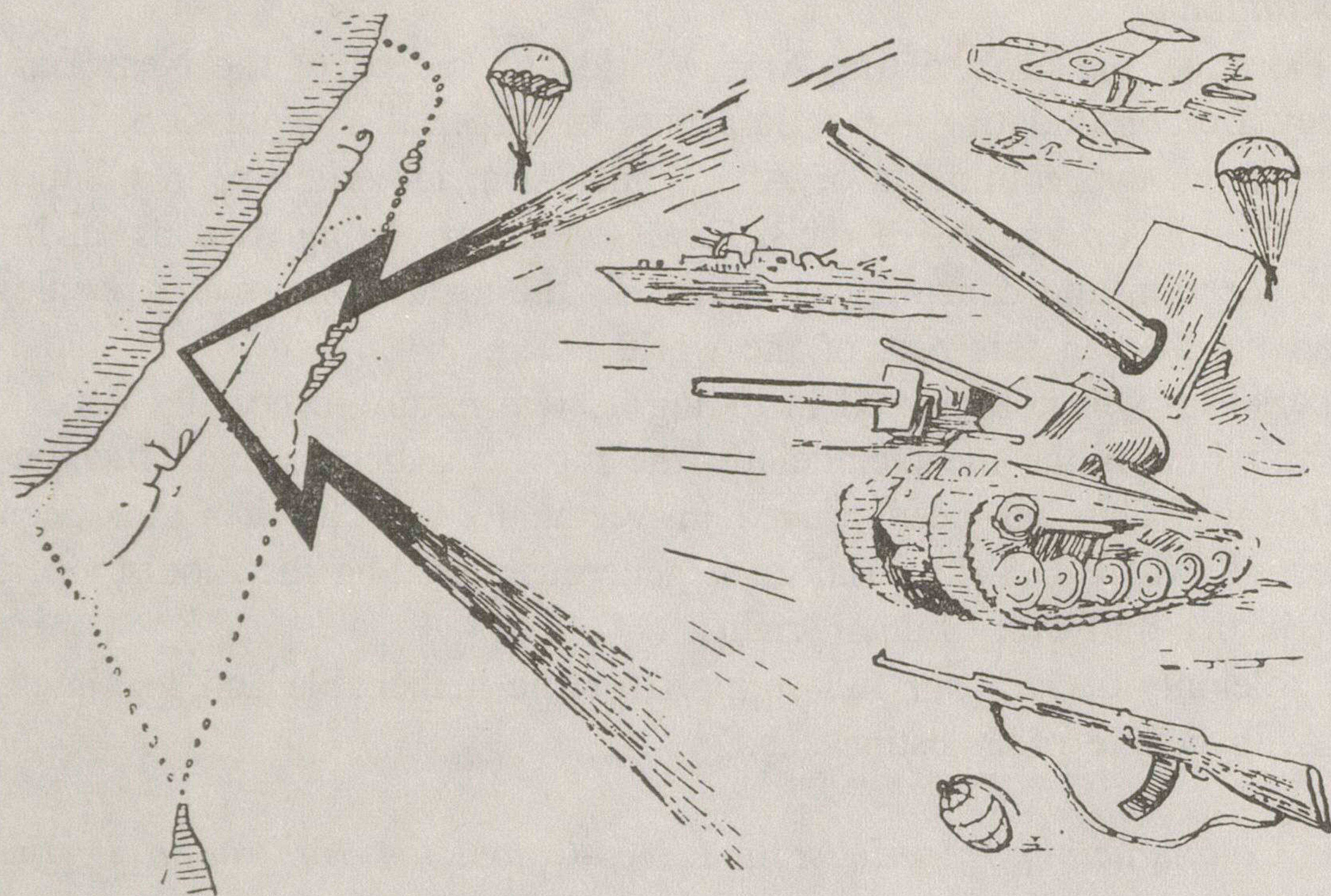
("Decisions of the Third Conference of Afro-Asian Writer", *New York Times*, No. 17, April 26, 1967)

ISRAEL ONCE MORE AGGRESSOR

"IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE USSR" — is a report to the effect that the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Israel was invited to the USSR Foreign Ministry. A statement was presented to him in connection with the continuing aggressive actions on the part of Israel towards neighbouring Arab States.

The statement points out that the Soviet Government has repeatedly drawn the Israel Government's attention to the periodical aggravation of the situation in the Near East as a result of the policy pursued by external imperialist forces and

الدرس الثامن



"Israel shall be liquidated" — illustration in a Syrian text-book

SOVIET STATEMENTS

also extremist and militarist circles in Israel, a policy directed against the sovereignty and independence of neighbouring Arab States. The situation in that part of the world has more than once been the subject of discussion at the UN Security Council and continues to cause anxiety to the world.

The Soviet Government, says the statement, could not avoid paying attention to an armed incident which took place on April 7 of this year between Israel and Syria, during which the Israeli side permitted itself to start undisguised military actions against the Syrian Arab Republic with the use of aircraft, tanks and artillery. This risky playing with fire by Israel in an area in direct proximity to the Soviet Union frontiers was accompanied by statements confirming that Israel was trying to solve the Israeli-Arab controversies 'from positions of strength', by military means. Thus, for instance, the Israel Chief of Staff stated that Israel's armed attack on April 7 was not the last and the forms, methods and timing of further actions of this kind would be chosen by Israel.

The statement of the USSR Foreign Ministry stresses that the world is again faced with an act of aggression by Israel, which has demonstrated that it is inclined to a policy of adventures dangerous to the cause of peace.

In connection with the armed attack on Syria on 7th April, says the statement, the Soviet Government deems it necessary to warn the Government of Israel once again that the risky policy which Israel has been following for a number of years towards its neighbours is fraught with danger and that full responsibility for this lies with the Government of Israel.

The Soviet Government expects that the Government of Israel will carefully weigh the arising situation and will not follow in the wake of those circles that show their political shortsightedness and are ready to turn their country into a toy in the hands of hostile external forces, thus threatening the vital interests of the people and the fate of their country.

The Ambassador said that he would pass on this statement to his government.

(*Izvestia*, April 27, 1967)

ARAB STATEMENTS

SYRIA TO ATTACK ISRAEL

President Atassi

"... the popular war of liberation is the hard terrain on which the forces of progress must meet, in order to face the dangers of the Zionist base camp, set up by imperialism in the heart of the Arab homeland. We command that a transfer be made from positions of defence to positions of attack, so as to be able to enter upon a battle to liberate the Occupied Territory and obliterate the stain on the face of Arab history."

(Damascus Radio, 23 February 1967)

ISRAELI EXTREMISTS TO INFILTRATE INTO SYRIA

“... Another American plot has failed in Syria. A few days ago an American agent wrote an anti-religious article in the magazine *Al-Jaysh as-Shabi* without official permission. The big businessmen and reactionary clergy used this as a pretext to fight the revolutionary Government with the support of Arab reactionary and imperialist circles. They decided to disrupt trade and food supplies and to cause panic and disorder in the capital and other regions of the country, all of which would make it easier to overthrow the Government . . . It turned out that these provocations were only a link in the chain of events . . . The unrest and disorder incited in various regions of Syria was to be the signal for armed action by these traitors . . . These units of traitors were to be supported by Israeli troops dressed in Syrian uniform. It is interesting that the Israeli extremist circles are searching for a pretext for fresh armed conflicts against Syria. For this reason, they are spreading rumours that Syrian spies are crossing the borders into Israel . . .”

(“An American Plot against Syria”, Commentary by *Radio Peace and Progress*, in English for Africa, 14.30 GMT 13 May 1967)

ISRAEL PLANS NEW AGGRESSION AGAINST SYRIA

“... In the military and political circles of the capital of Israel, more and more voices are raised claiming the ‘necessity for a new demonstration of force’ on the Syrian-Israeli border. The Prime-Minister Eshkol says: ‘We are ready to undertake wider action than that of April’ . . . The paper *Ha’aretz*, points out that ‘military circles state that evidently a frontal clash with Syria is unavoidable’. It is significantly stressed that ‘a new unfolding of events is envisaged’. There is wide dissemination of rumours concerning the alerting of Israeli troops . . . The Tel-Aviv correspondent of *The New York Times* has recently reported that the Israeli authorities are planning a new air force attack against Syria.

ARAB STATEMENTS

NOT A SINGLE ISRAELI IS GOING TO BE LEFT ALIVE

Ahmed Shukeiri at Amman

"Either we or Israel. There is no other way and we shall accept no other solution but the liberation of Palestine.

"I can't imagine that even a single Israeli is going to be left alive once the battle begins."

(Al Anwar, 2 June 1967)

SOVIET STATEMENTS

In one word, the atmosphere is becoming more and more charged. It is difficult to call Israel's actions anything but provoking. This is the evaluation that is given them by the Arab press and by newspapers of many countries throughout the world."

("New Provocations Being Prepared", *Izvestia*, May 16, 1967)

JORDAN TO JOIN ISRAEL IN ATTACK ON SYRIA

"... Apparently some people in Tel-Aviv have decided that this spring is the most suitable time for provocations against the neighbouring Arab country of Syria... I should like to draw listeners' attention to the most remarkable co-operation between Israel and Jordan. Israeli aircraft could not have appeared over Syrian territory if Israel had not had permission to fly over Jordanian territory, that only King Hussein could give. This proves military co-operation against Syria between Israel and Jordan, countries juridically still at war. Then the clearly ostentatious military parade of 15th May in Jerusalem, which was rightly assessed in the Arab capitals as a concentration of Israeli troops near the demilitarised zone, as well as the bellicose statement by the Israel Chief of Staff, Gen. Rabin, about the 'special' armed units which could be used against Syria — all these are links in a chain of increasing tension in the Middle East..."

It would be appropriate to recall at this stage another centre of tension in the Arab East and the Adeni patriots' resolute struggle against the British colonisers... Britain intends to shilly-shally... The form of British rule will, of course, be changed. No wonder the Foreign Office has dispatched to Aden such an excellent master of colonial intrigues as... Sir Humphrey Trevelyan. The former policy in Aden... will be replaced by a whole series of compromises. One of these compromises now being elaborated in London is that Saudi Arabia should replace Britain in Aden. While talks are in progress in London between Harold Wilson and King Faisal, naval manoeuvres have been started off the South Arabian shores in which British warships significantly enough are taking part.

"The formation of a military alliance between Israel and Jordan and the agreement between Britain and Saudi Arabia proves again that the imperialists and their assistants are acting in a single front against the national liberation struggle of the Arab peoples.

ARAB STATEMENTS

EGYPTIAN COMBAT ORDERS

Egyptian Vice-President, Marshal Amer: three final decisions

1. The preparedness of the Egyptian armed forces will be increased to the rank of *preparedness for fighting*, starting from 2.30 p.m. last Sunday.
2. The formations and units designated in the plan of campaign will move from their present positions to their intended positions.
3. The armed forces will be completely prepared to carry out all *combat objectives* on the Israeli front in the light of the development of the situation.

(Cairo Radio, 17 May 1961)

SOVIET STATEMENTS

"Against whom in particular is the new holy alliance directed — an alliance being knocked together by the imperialists in this part of the world ? Without any doubt, against Republican Yemen. The Yemeni revolution, which started in September 1965, is still a source of great concern to the feudal rulers of the Arabian Peninsula. They would have very much liked to deal harshly with it, but have obviously not been able to. The overt British onslaughts on San'a have so far given no results. Now the USA has openly joined the enemies of the Yemeni Republic. After the incident in Taiz, this has become apparent to all.

"So the circle has been completed. It remains only to emphasize that the new holy alliance between imperialism and Arab reaction has a most important aim : to ensure that Aden and the South of the Arabian Peninsula remain with Britain and the USA, and also to protect the distant approaches of the Near Eastern empire of the American and British oil trusts. That is the main reason for Israel's present provocations on the borders of Syria and for General Rabin's bellicose statement."

(Moscow Radio Home Service, 18.30 GMT 16 May 1967)

ISRAEL — CENTRE OF ANTI-SYRIAN ACTIVITY

"The military build-up on the Syrian-Israeli border shows that Israel remains the centre of tension in the Near East, says the *Pravda* commentator Igor Belyayev. General I. Rabin, Chief of General Staff of the Israeli Army, made a statement the day before yesterday that Israel had special armed groups ready to be used against Syria. Belyayev points out that the aggressive pronouncements by the Chief of General Staff of the Israel Army are due to a rather important circumstance. 'The fact is that the present Government of Syria, which opposes the domination of foreign monopolies in the Near and Middle East, is not to Washington's liking.' Certain American imperialist circles, Belyayev writes, would have been highly pleased if the abortive uprising in May in Damascus and Aleppo had ended differently. After its failure the same people are interested in aggravating tension on the Syrian borders in order to create new difficulties for that country. Israel has again taken upon itself the duties of organizer of anti-Syrian actions. 'Not for nothing is Israel being hastily armed with American military equipment, including heavy tanks'."

(Tass in Russian for Abroad 06.08 and in English 05.52 GMT 16 May 1967

Text of report of *Pravda* article : "Israel Threat to Syria")

EGYPTIAN BATTLE ORDERS

(سرى للنائية)

قيادة القوات الجوية والدفاع الجوي

قيادة المنطقة الشرقية الجوية

القيادة العامة

اللواء الجوي الثاني

التبدي / ٦٣ / ١ / ١ / ٦٧

التاريخ / ٢٦ / ٥ / ١٩٦٧

أمر قتال رقم ٦٧/٦

١ - خرائط المراجعة

مجموعة خرائط مصر وفلسطين ١ / ٥٠٠٠٠٠

٢ - مهمة السرب ٢٥ قتال من اللواء الجوي الثاني

ضرب ميناء ايلات ذرية مركزة بقوة سرب

تاريخ التنفيذ

- ١ - تقوم أربعة طائرات بضرب المطار ومحطة توليد الكهرباء الموجودة بمنتصف العمر وذلك أن تقوم طائرة القائد ورقم (٢) بضرب منتصف العمر بالصواريخ وعلى رقم (٣) و (٤) ضرب المنطقة بالصواريخ والدفاع ثم على دوران الى جهة اليسار بعد الخروج من الهجوم بالدايران الواطى لمدة نصف دقيقة (الوقت فوق الهدف من س + ٤ الى س + ٥) .
- ب - تقوم أربعة طائرات بضرب مستودعات الوقود جنوب ايلات ومحطة تحويل المياه بضربة مركزة بالدفاع والصواريخ وعلى دوران لجهة اليمين والعودة الى القاعدة بعد الهجوم على ان يقوم القائد ورقم (٢) بمهاجمة الوقود ويقوم رقم (٣) و (٤) بمهاجمة محطة تحويل المياه (الوقت فوق الهدف من س + ٥ الى س + ١) .
- ج - تقوم اربعة طائرات بضرب محطة الرادار على ان تكون الميناء الجديدة ومخازن البوتاسيوم والفوسفات تحت قيادة السرب . على ان يقوم رقم (١) و (٢) بمهاجمة موقع الرادار ٨١ (١٨٠٠٠) ويقوم رقم (٣) و (٤) بمهاجمة موقع الرادار (١٠٠٠) وموقع ايد حورة لموقع الرادار .
- وفي حالة مهاجمة الغرض التبادلي يقوم رقم (١) و (٢) بمهاجمة اوان الميناء التبادلي الجديد ورقم (٣) و (٤) بمهاجمة مخازن البوتاسيوم على ان يقوب بسهل دوران لليمين بعد الدايان الواطى لمدة نصف دقيقة والعودة للقاعدة (الوقت فوق الهدف من س + ٦ الى س + ٧) .
- د - يتم تبخير التشميمات الثلاث على ارتفاع ٢٠٠ متر والنزول الى ٥٠ متر أثناء الدايان للهدف والعودة وموقع ايد حورة الدايان للهدف الثلاث .

٣ - الرخعات المماثلة

- ١ - سيقوم اللواء الجوي التاسع س ٤٥ بعملية بالقوة ثمانية الطائرات مع ٢١ لخطية القوة الاربعة من وضع العدالة الجوية رقم (١) . منطقة العدالة المجزوء شطلا وجبل شمسون جنوبا وحتى ٣٠ كيلو جهة الغرب من تلا الجبلين . ارتفاع العدالة من ١ الى ٨ كيلو متر . مدة العدالة من س + ٥ الى س + ١١ .
- ب - اللواء الجوي الخامس من القاعدة ٢٣٢ س ٤٠ يكون مستعدا من وضع الاستعداد رقم التعزيز عملية العدالة الجوية .
- ٤ - تنظيم التعزيز

يتم تنظيم التعزيز بين قائد السرب ٢٥ واللواء الجوي ال ٦١

بعد -

Photostat of Battle Order No. 6 of the Egyptian Air Force dated 26 May 1967, giving the "standby for total readiness" — 26 May 1967.

U.A.R. AND SYRIA UNITE AGAINST ISRAEL AGGRESSION

"... The agreement concerning joint defensive actions concluded between Syria and the UAR, has shown that the co-operation between the two progressive Arab States is growing. New steps have now been undertaken in this direction. They have been called forth by the unceasing provocations against Syria. The press reports the concentration of large contingents of Israeli troops on the Syrian and the Lebanese borders . . . "

("Ready to Rebuff", by L. Koryanin, *Izvestia*, May 17, 1967)

LEBANON CONDEMNS ISRAEL PROVOCATION

"... The Lebanese, just like the inhabitants of other countries of the Arab East, have expressed warm gratitude to the Soviet Union for its consistent struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for its support of the Arab peoples defending their independence. The stern condemnation of Israeli provocations on the Arab borders and the well-known warning to the Israeli extremists made by the USSR were warmly welcomed by the Lebanese public . . . "

("With the Lebanese Friends", *Izvestia*, May 17, 1967)

ISRAEL TO PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN DOWNFALL OF SYRIA

"... 'Recent facts show', the newspaper says, 'that the Israeli rulers have not heeded the voice of reason and continue to play with fire. They are openly sabre-rattling, as borne out by the provocative military parade in Jerusalem on 15th May . . . It is no coincidence that this aggressive policy towards countries has been adopted by Israel's rulers . . . The Government of the USA and Britain, as a statement issued by the Israeli Communists says, are interested in building up a coalition against the anti-imperialist forces which are increasing the struggle to end colonial rule in the Middle East; they are also interested in the overthrow of the present Government in Syria. Israel is assigned an important place in these plans of the Washington and London politicians. The impression is being created that there is secret plotting between the American, British and Israel authorities.' "

(*Tass* in Russian for Abroad 16.14 and in English 16.43 GMT 17 May 1967 broadcasts the report of an article published in *Izvestia*, called "A Dangerous Course".)

EGYPTIAN BATTLE ORDERS

TOP-SECRET

U.A.R.
Eastern Air Command H.Q.
Office of Chief of Staff

Reference No. 135/67/3/35

BATTLE ORDER NO. 5/67

Reference Maps: EGYPT and PALESTINE 1,500,000

1. Air Force and Air Defence Assignments:

Bombing of EILAT port, concentrated bombing with the objective of destroying fuel stores, pumping stations and power installations, wharves, naval units, wireless station, radar center, army camps and the airport.

2. Required effort for implementation of the assignment

- a. Sortie of IL-28 light bomber brigade (2 squadrons).
- b. Sortie of MIG-17 fighter bomber brigade (2 squadrons).
- c. Sortie of a flight of K.S. missile carrying bombers (4 aircraft).
- d. Sortie of 2 flights of MIG-21 fighters (8 aircraft).

3. Aerial Formation Assignments

2 AIR BRIGADE: (200 kms. from EL ARISH - 165 kms. from BEER THAMADA).

-to bomb fuel stores, power station, pumping station, in squadron strength.

-to bomb army camps, in a strength of 2 flights, comprising 8 aircraft.

-to bomb the radar station in a strength of 4 aircraft.

--the Brigade will return to base after execution of the assignment.

-If short of fuel, the Brigade will refuel at BIR THAMADA on the way back.

OVER TARGET, from H Hour to H Hour +6.

Armament: Rockets and cannon.

(Continued on page 68)

FIRM ARAB STAND AGAINST ISRAEL AGGRESSION

“... The political situation in the Near East remains extremely tense. The latest aggressive statements by the Israeli Government, its threats to Syria and its aggressive preparations along the truce line with this Arab country have further aggravated the situation. Tel Aviv knows very well that the Syrian people are firmly resolved to retort to any Israeli aggression. Furthermore, a number of Arab countries are ready to give immediate and direct aid to Syria. The Governments of the UAR, Iraq, Algeria and Lebanon have said so without ambiguity. Therefore the anti-Syrian activities of the Israeli rulers are a deliberate challenge to many countries of the Arab East and foremost, of course, to those which are engaged in consolidating their political and economic independence . . . The attitude of the Israeli authorities . . . reflects the role allotted to Israel in the treacherous plans of the imperialist Powers, headed by the USA . . . The USA is obviously inciting the Israeli militarists to armed action against the Arabs. Not for nothing did the Israeli Prime Minister, Eshkol, admit in a recent interview that, in the event of an armed clash with the Arab countries, the USA was ready to help Israel with its Sixth Fleet. Eshkol said this had been guaranteed him personally by American leaders . . .”

(Radio Moscow in Arabic, 17 May 1967)

EGYPTIAN BATTLE ORDERS

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61 AIR BRIGADE

- to bomb wharves in a strength of 6 aircraft.
- to bomb the port in a strength of 6 aircraft.
- to bomb army camps in a strength of 6 aircraft.
- Over target, from H Hour +7 to H Hour +15.
- Armament: 500 kg. G.P. bombs, 250 kg. bombs, and incendiaries.

65 AIR BRIGADE

- to bomb the port in a strength of 4 K.S. aircraft, from 95 flight.
- Over target, from H Hour +18 to H Hour +22.

9 AIR BRIGADE

- to bomb in a strength of two flights for the protection of our forces participating in the action of 2 Air Brigade, 61 Air Brigade and 65 Air Brigade, in accordance with the Air Defence plan.

4. COORDINATION PROCEDURES

OC Eastern Air Region will supervise the coordination procedures between OCS 61, 2 and 9 Air Brigades in this operation.

5. COMMAND AND CONTROL

- a. Central Command of Air Force operations to be by OC Air Force and Air Defence from Center 302.
- b. The actions of this assignment to be directed from Center 310. Alternatives: MLEZ and FAID airbases.

6. READINESS TIMES

Readiness times for the execution of the plan is to be determined at the proper time, in accordance with the orders of the OC Air Force and Air Defence.

- a. with the release of the code name "ASSAD" the plan becomes effective.
- b. H Hour is to be determined by OC Air Force and Air Defence at his discretion.

(signed) Lt. General Pilot
JALLAL IBRAHIM ZAID
Chief of Staff
Eastern Air Region

REACTION UNITES AGAINST PROGRESSIVE ARAB COUNTRIES

"The sharp deterioration in the situation both on the Israeli-Syrian border and in South Arabia cannot be considered as isolated phenomena. An extremely unfavourable situation has developed recently for imperialism and its agents in the Arab world. The alliance of progressive Arab countries in the process of creation has become a base for further development of the national liberation movement in the Near East and for undermining the positions of colonialism. In this situation, the imperialists are striving to increase tension on the Israeli-Syrian border, to support feudal reaction in South Arabia which combats progressive forces in the Peninsula, and to test the strength of the regimes in the progressive Arab countries. The principal blows are aimed at Syria and the UAR, which have taken an implacably anti-imperialist stand. It is known that Cairo is giving aid to Yemeni Republicans, against whom the overthrown monarchists, Great Britain, the USA and King Feisal have united. Now the imperialists are trying to bring about a new conflict, this time on the Israeli-Syrian border. Naturally, should it break out, the UAR would not stand aside . . .

"One has the impression that certain circles in London and Washington are not against preparing a new Suez, in order at one blow to solve their problems in that area and stop the further development of the national liberation movement . . ."

(Moscow Radio Home Service, 17.00 GMT May 1967)

ARAB STATEMENTS

TIME FOR THE HOLY WAR

Commander of Egyptian Land Forces Abd Al-Mahsan Mortagi

"Egyptian forces took up positions in accordance with the predetermined plans."

"Our forces are completely prepared to carry the battle outside the borders of Egypt."

"Morale is very high among the members of the armed forces *for this is the day they have been waiting for, the Holy War to restore the stolen land to its rightful owners.*"

"In many meetings with military personnel, they asked *when the time would come for the Holy War — the time has now come to give them their desires.*"

(The Voice of the Arabs, ("Saut al-'Arab") 18 May 1967)

ISRAEL'S PART IN U.S. PLOT AGAINST SYRIA

" . . . This stand of the Israeli Authorities is not a chance one. It reflects the character of the role (that of direct provocation) that Israel has been given to play within the framework of the large plot directed and financed by the CIA of the USA.

"The letter points out that the plotters have the illusion that now is the time for delivering a blow to the Syrian regime, during the presence of the American Sixth Fleet . . . in the region. We think it our duty to state that such 'blows' are going to inflame the entire region."

(*"The Plot against Syria"*, *Krasnaya Zvezda*, May 18, 1967)

ISRAEL PREPARES ATTACK ON SYRIA

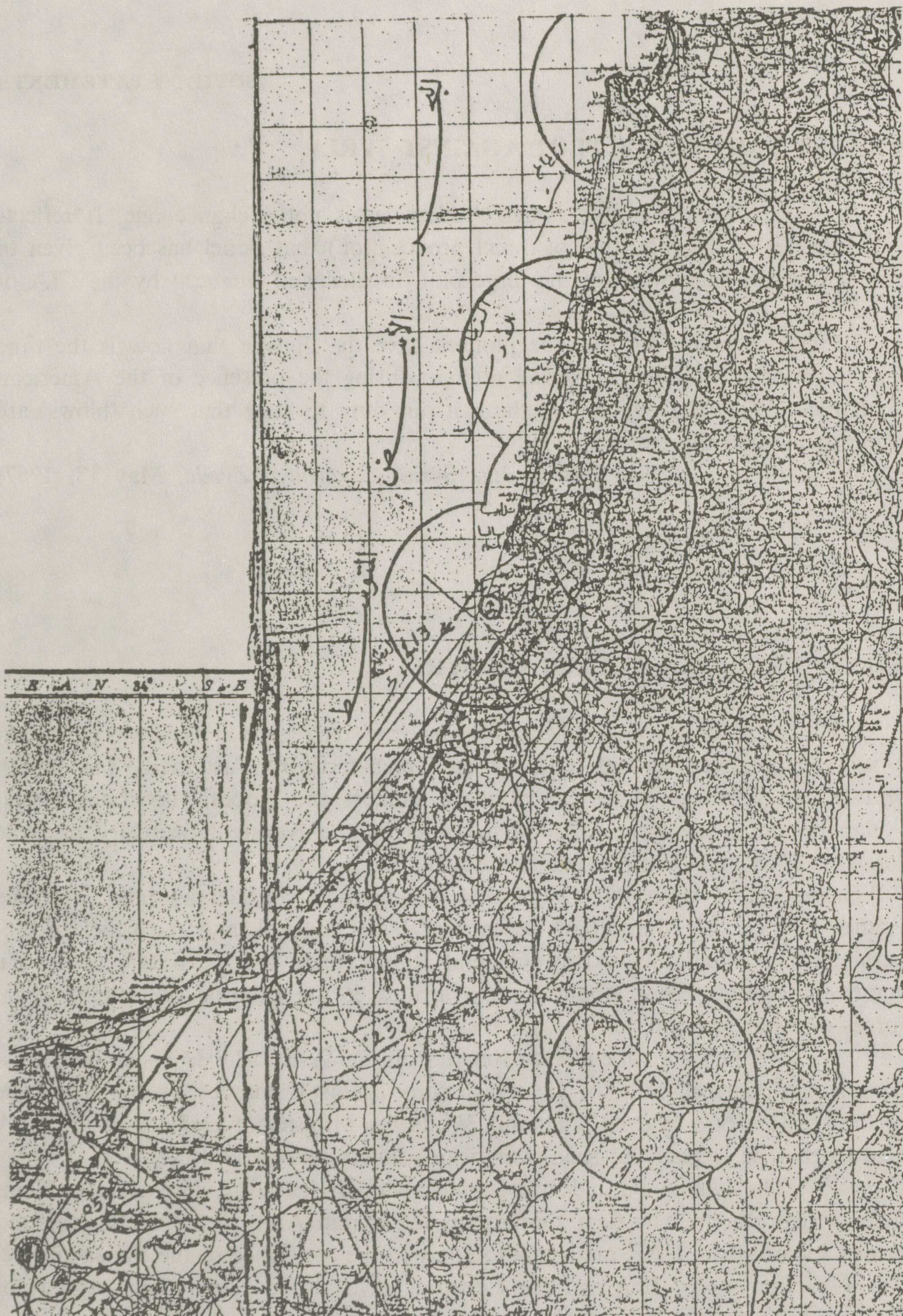
"The plan for a new plot against the progressive regime in Syria was thoroughly worked out overseas and tried out on Israeli territory. Just in the last month or two, two very high American officials, Sanders and Hopes, visited the Israel-Syrian border. They were followed to Israel by the Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs, Battle.

"There can be very little doubt that during their confidential talks with the Prime-Minister and Minister of Defence of Israel, Eshkol, and the Chief of General Staff of the Israeli Army, General Rabin, there had been talk about the aggression against Syria, about uniting against it the external and the internal forces of Arab reaction . . .

" . . . At the same time threats sound from Tel-Aviv. The Minister of Transport, Moshe Carmel, calls for the use of force against Damascus, even if this leads to the creation of a 'second Vietnam'. While the Minister of Defence of the USA affirms that he is ready to send American soldiers to defend Israel . . .

" . . . The United Arab Republic, tied with Syria by an agreement on joint defence, has declared its firm support for the Syrian Arab Republic. The alerted armed forces of the UAR are ready to come to the assistance of the Syrian people. The Governments of Iraq and the Lebanon have also declared their support of Syria with all the means at their disposal."

(*Bakinsky Rabochyi*, May 18, 1967)



Captured attack plan of Egyptian Air Force, dated 18 May 1967, showing major target areas of Beersheba, Tel Aviv, Haifa and the Coastal Plain

ISRAELIS THREATEN ATTACK ON DAMASCUS

"It is always dangerous to play with fire, but it is particularly so in the Arab East. There is too much fuel there. And even a chance spark is capable of setting off the fire of a big conflict.

"In Tel-Aviv they know this, but they do not hide the matches away. On the contrary, from time to time they strike them and throw them over the fence to the neighbour. On April 7, for example, such 'pranks' turned into a serious armed clash on the Israeli-Syrian border. Then the arsonists got their hands slapped. However, they hadn't learned their lesson.

"We are ready to undertake wider operations than those of April 7', the Prime Minister Eshkol says these days. The Chief of General Staff of the Israeli Army, Gen. Rabin, made outspoken aggressive statements. It transpires that he has already prepared special armed groups that can be used against neighbouring Syria. In Tel-Aviv there are more and more frequent calls for an 'attack on Damascus'.

"Where does such belligerence come from? The thing is that the Israeli extremists are blowing into American trumpets. It is Washington that incites Tel Aviv to new anti-Syrian actions . . . The plotters are under the illusion that the presence of the US Sixth Fleet in the vicinity will facilitate for them the delivering of a blow to Syria.

"But Syria has trusted friends who will not leave her in the lurch . . . The United Arab Republic has stated its resolve to go to war with Israel if the 'Syrian Motherland' is in danger . . ."

(*Krasnaya Zvezda*, May 19, 1967)

ARABS ON GUARD AGAINST ISRAEL AGGRESSION

". . . World press agencies report that there are wide preparations for an Israel aggression against the Syrian Arab Republic. Belligerent statements are made by the political, and the military leaders of Israel, including the Prime-Minister, Levi Eshkol. Large Israeli army formations are concentrated on the borders with Syria . . . The imperialist circles of the West, who have long been dreaming of overthrowing the revolutionary regime in Syria, have undertaken another effort to use Israel as a 'striking force' . . .

". . . From yesterday the armed forces of the United Arab Republic are in full combat readiness. Detachments of armoured tanks and infantry have been

ARAB STATEMENTS

WAR AGAINST ISRAEL NOW

Syrian Minister of War Hafez Asad

"Our forces are now completely ready, not only to repel aggression, but to *initiate the liberation and to explode aggressive Zionist existence* in our Arab homeland. The Syrian army, whose expectations have been planned with its finger on the trigger, is unanimous in its opinion that war should be escalated. We are now waiting for the signal from the political leadership. *As a soldier, I am convinced that the time has arrived to carry out the war of liberation.*"

(*Al-Thowra*, Syria, 20 May 1967)

SOVIET STATEMENTS

transferred to the Sinai Peninsula, into the region of the Egypt-Israel border. All these measures are taken in accordance with the defence agreement between Syria and the UAR . . . The leaders of Iraq, Lebanon, Algeria, Kuwait and Yemen have stated their solidarity and their resolute support for Syria. The situation in the Near East continues to deteriorate as a result of the aggressive aims of Israel and of the imperialist circles behind it."

(*Trud*, May 19, 1967)

ISRAELI ARMY MASSES ON SYRIAN BORDER

"... Together with the verbal threats on the part of official Israeli personalities who declare that in the near future they are going to 'deliver a decisive blow to Syria', certain practical actions of the extremists cause concern. The Syrian border is constantly violated and Syrian positions are fired upon. The United Arab Republic has not remained indifferent to the Israeli aggression hanging over Syria . . . As the Cairo press reports, the alerted Egyptian troops are being transferred into the region of the Suez Canal and of the Sinai Peninsula . . . Local political observers stress that all these measures have been taken in connection with the fact that Israel continues to wave the torch of aggression on the Syrian border. As the paper *Al-Akhram* emphasizes, the deterioration of the situation has been caused by 'the concentration of Israeli armed forces on the Syrian border' . . . "

(*Izvestia*, May 19, 1967)

ISRAEL PREPARES FOR WAR ON SYRIA

"... The Prime-Minister of Israel, Levi Eshkol, has recently come out with threats against the Arab countries, particularly against Syria. This was followed, according to telegraph agencies, by a concentration of Israel troops on the border with Syria — a re-grouping of armies and divisions that bears the character of preparations for aggression. Again tension arose in the Near East.

"In the UAR and in other Arab countries, troops have been brought to combat readiness. These countries have expressed their solidarity with Syria and their readiness to help it rebuff a possible aggression . . . "

(*Komsomolskaya Pravda*, May 20, 1967)

EGYPTIAN BATTLE ORDERS

TOP-SECRET

Air Force and Air Defence HQ
Eastern Air Command HQ
2 5 9 Air Base
2 Air Brigade

Reference 63/1/1/67
Date 26/5/1967

BATTLE ORDER NO. 6/67

1. MAP REFERENCE: EGYPT and PALESTINE 1: 500,000.
2. 25 Fighter Squadron 2 Air Brigade -- ASSIGNMENTS:
Concentrated bombing of Eilat port by Squadron force
METHOD OF ATTACK:
 - a. Four aircraft will bomb the airfield and electric power station situated halfway along the coastal strip. The aircraft of the Squadron OC and aircraft No. 2 will bomb the strip center with missiles, while Nos. 3 and 4 will attack the power station with rockets and guns. Within half a minute the aircraft will break low altitude formation, turning left.
Over target: H Hour +4 to H Hour +5.
 - b. Four aircraft will bomb the fuel tanks south of Eilat, and the water desalination plant -- concentrated bombing with guns and rockets, turning right and returning to air base after attack. Squadron OC and No. 2 aircraft attack the fuel dump and Nos. 3 and 4 the desalination plant.
Over target: H Hour +5 to H Hour +6.
 - c. Four aircraft will bomb the radar station with the new port and potash and phosphate stores serving as alternate targets.

METHOD

- Nos. 1 and 2 will attack 86 Radar Station (FBS - 86);
3 and 4 will attack Radar Station (FBS - 100).
Attached is a photo of the radar position.
Alternate mission of Nos. 1 and 2 will be to attack boats anchored in the new civil port while Nos. 3 and 4 will attack the potash warehouses, turning right after half a minute, while flying at low altitude and returning to base.
Over target: H Hour +6 to H Hour +7.
- d. All three formations will assemble at 200 meters altitude, descending to 50 meters on course to target and back. Attached is a flight plan for the three sorties.

(Continued on page 78)

IMPERIALIST SUPPORT ENCOURAGES ISRAEL'S RECKLESS PROVOCATIONS

"... One of the Western magazines, which likes statistics, has calculated that from its creation in 1948 Israel has already undertaken over 3,700 aggressive actions against Syria and against other Arab countries. Moreover, this number includes only those provocations that have been officially registered by Armistice Commissions and the UNO.

"Why then do the ruling circles of Israel continue their provocations against Syria with the stubbornness of maniacs, in spite of the sharp protests of world public opinion? The answer to this question is in the pro-imperialist policy upheld by the Government of Israel. Having fully subordinated its political course to the interests of US monopolies, it obediently fulfills now the role of the instigator of provocations against the Syrian Arab Republic, which has chosen the path of non-capitalist development. But this is, so to say, the right side of Tel-Aviv's provocations. The reverse side is the endeavours of the government of Israel, with the help of chauvinist fumes, to distract the attention of the wide masses of the workers from acute internal problems..."

(*Pravda Vostoka*, May 20, 1967)

U.A.R. PREPARES TO DEFEND SYRIA FROM ISRAEL INVASION

"... In connection with the danger of an Israel invasion of Syrian territory, the UAR is taking the necessary measures to be ready, in case of aggression, to come out on the side of Damascus. The commandant of the Eastern front, General Mortagi, announced that the Egyptian troops have been concentrated near the Israel border... It is reported from Damascus that Prime Minister Zuy'en has inspected the alerted Syrian troops... He has stressed that behind all the Israeli actions stand the imperialist circles of the United States, which are trying to overthrow the revolutionary regime in Syria. 'We all know', said Zuy'en, 'that Israel wouldn't take a step without the support of the USA'..."

(*Izvestia*, May 20, 1967)

EGYPTIAN BATTLE ORDERS

TOP-SECRET

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3. SUPPORT UNITS

- a. 9 Air Brigade 45 Squadron will maintain an aerial umbrella with a force of 8 MIG 21 aircraft to protect the attacking force, according to No. 1 aerial umbrella pattern. Area of the umbrella is to be from AJRUD in the North and Mt. Shamoun in the South, up to 30 kms. from direction of the target between the two mountains; at an altitude of 6-8 kms. for a duration of from H Hour +5 to H Hour +16.
- b. 5 Air Brigade 40 Squadron from 232 Air Base will be in No. 1 State of Readiness to reinforce the aerial umbrella.

4. ORGANIZATION OF COORDINATION

Organized jointly by OC 25 Squadron and 61 Air Brigade.

5. SIGNALS

Communications will be maintained by an IL-14 aircraft on wavelength 133.3 (4) for support request by MIG 21 aircraft. Frequency 1-7 and 125 will serve as reserve.

6. BRIGADE COMMANDERS POSITION

From the first sortie, command of the formation will be carried out from the air while 310 Base will issue emergency orders through the IL-14 aircraft.

7. DURATION OF STATE OF READINESS

State of Readiness will commence at dawn of 26.5.1967. H. Hour will be determined by OC air forces and Air Defence.

(signed)
Lt. Colonel (PILOT)
Mamdukh Ahmed Taliba
OC 2 Air Brigade

Copy to-

OC 259 Air Base
OCs 25 Squadron
OC 260 Air Base

ISRAELI FORCES FACING SYRIA TURN ON EGYPT

"... The provoking statements and actions of the Israeli extremists show that they are ready to turn the 'war of nerves' into an open armed conflict with the Arab countries. According to the latest reports, the armed forces of Israel have been ordered to be in a state of readiness, 'in case of extraordinary circumstances'. The Cairo *Al Ahram* correspondent wires that Israeli troops concentrated in the north in regions bordering with Syria, are hastily being transferred to the south. An armoured tank division and three infantry battalions are moving towards the Egyptian borders. Squadrons of Israeli war planes are transferred to bases in direct proximity to the territory of the UAR. The Arab countries are taking steps to ensure their security . . .

"The active preparation for military adventures on the part of Israel arouses serious concern throughout the world. The Hindu paper *Patriot* points out that the situation is the result of the dirty plots of the oil monopolies active in the Arab countries, which want to use Israel as a weapon for the overthrow of the progressive government in Damascus . . . It is first of all the USA, which . . . inspires the Israeli extremists. The acute situation in the Near East is also used by Washington as the means of distracting attention from a new criminal escalation of aggression in Vietnam . . ."

(*Izvestia*, May 20, 1967)

ISRAELI ARMY MASSES TO COUNTER SYRIA'S ALLEGED TERRORIST ACTS

"... We are again turning to the map of the Near East. The situation in this region has again become very complicated. The Israeli ruling circles openly threaten the start of an armed intervention in Syria under the pretext that it is allegedly responsible for terrorist acts in Israel. The Israeli Army Command has ordered a partial mobilisation of reservists. Israeli troops are concentrated on the Syrian border and commit provocations on land and in the air. Matters have gone so far that Israeli fighters have these days opened fire on the plane of the Commander of the UNO Emergency Forces . . . In connection with the present situation, the United Arab Republic has requested the withdrawal of the UN forces from the Egyptian-Israeli border and, on instructions from the Secretary General of the UN, U Thant, this is being done. The UAR troops are ready to aid Syria in event of aggression on the part of Israel . . . Five months ago the Security

ARAB STATEMENTS

EGYPT STRONG ENOUGH TO DESTROY ISRAEL

President Nasser's Speech

"The Arab people want to fight and restore the rights of the people of Palestine. Many years have passed, and many people have tried to throw doubt on our intentions as regards Palestine. Of course, it is easy to talk, but very difficult to act . . . We have awaited a suitable day, when we should be fully prepared, so that should we enter into conflict with Israel, we might be sure of victory and we could take drastic steps . . .

"Lately, we have felt that we are strong enough and that were we to enter into a war against Israel we could, with the help of God, win it and take real steps . . . And in fact this is what happened at Sharm-al-Sheikh. We were attacked by certain Arabs. It was quite simply impossible. *Sharm-al-Sheikh meant nothing more nor less than confrontation with Israel.* The taking of this step obliges us to prepare for an all-embracing war with Israel. This is an integral part of it, and we thus had to take into consideration that when we were able to act we would go to Sharm-al-Sheikh, and obtain our right."

(*The Voice of the Arabs* ("Saut al-'Arabs"), 26 May 1967)

NO CO-EXISTENCE WITH ISRAEL

President Nasser's Press Conference

"We shall not accept any possibility of co-existence with Israel It is not a question today of an arrangement for a peace settlement between the Arabs states and Israel. It is a question of Israel having arisen through the force of aggression. It is a question of the rights of the Palestinian people and there is no alternative to returning the rights of the Palestinian Arabs, nor is there any possible settlement that can be reached in the present state of affairs. A state of war with Israel has existed since 1948."

(*Cairo Radio*, 28 May 1967)

SOVIET STATEMENTS

Council condemned Israel for aggression against Syria. The question naturally arises : who then is inciting Israeli ruling circles to new dangerous adventures ? An analysis of the latest events shows that it is the question of another plot by American imperialism, the ruling circles of Israel and the Arab reaction, directed towards the suppression of the national-liberation struggle of the Arab people.

“ . . . It is not unlikely that in the next few days there might be new provocations against Syria. The USA is unceremoniously pushing Israel towards an armed invasion of Syrian territory. At the same time, plans are made for introducing into Syria the troops of certain neighbouring countries that are under the control of the imperialists. It is planned to do this under the pretext of ‘aid’, but in fact this will be done to support the counter-revolutionary elements that come out against the Syrian government . . .

“ . . . The events in the Near East cannot, of course, be examined separately, they are closely tied with the new crime of the American aggressors in Vietnam — the invasion into the demilitarized zone and the intensification of the barbarous bombardment of Hanoi and the preparation for new provocations against Cuba by the United States . . . ”

(*Pravda*, May 22, 1967)

EXTRACT FROM SOVIET NOTE TO ISRAEL, June 2, 1967

“In this communication (of the Israel Foreign Minister) which was composed in a spirit of open threat and aggression towards the Arab states, it was expressly stated that Israel can only wait for a limited period for the fulfillment of her demands, and that this waiting period is a matter of days or weeks for inaction is action, and Israel will eventually open the Straits of Tiran herself, if the big powers do not lift the blockade. In fact, Eban’s declaration can only be construed as official confirmation of information that bears witness to the activation of adventurous, warmongering circles in Israel desirous of dictating a line of action to the Government of Israel and to her people likely to result in a situation, which will be irreparable, above all for Israel herself.

“The Soviet government has already made sufficiently and precisely clear to the Israeli government her attitude to the present incidents in the Near East, and her intentions should a state of war come into being. The Soviet Government wishes to repeat that it will do everything in order to avoid the possibility of military conflict. Its present efforts are concentrated (on achieving) this (aim). But should the Israeli government decide to accept the responsibility for the outbreak of armed conflict, it will have to pay the consequences in full.”

ARAB STATEMENTS

THE ARABS ARE MASSING FOR THE ATTACK

President Nasser's Speech

"... If we have succeeded in restoring the situation to what it was prior to 1956, there is no doubt that God will help us to restore the situation to what it was prior to 1948."

(Cairo Radio, 29 May 1967)

President Nasser After Signing the Defence Pact with Jordan

"The armies of Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon stand on the frontiers with Israel, in order to meet the challenge, with the armies of Iraq, Kuwait, Sudan and the whole Arab nation at our rear.

"This action will astonish the world. Today they will know that the Arabs are massing for the attack, when the real hour comes. This is the stage for real action and not mere declarations, whatever their strength is."

(Cairo Radio, 30 May 1967)

King Hussein in Interview with Correspondent of "Al-Khayat"

"There is no doubt that I expect another liberation of Palestine together with Egypt and the other Arab states, both in the East and in the West, through mutual frankness, so that we can march on the right path *to obliterate shame and to liberate Palestine*. This constitutes the foundation stone of the overall policy of Jordan on the Arab front, and in home and foreign policy."

(Al-Khayyat, Lebanon, 2 June 1967)

Daily Orders of the Commander of the Sinai Front

"The world awaits you, you are now entering a most holy battle against Israeli and imperialist aggression against your Arab homeland.

"The world is waiting for the day of your sacred struggle for the return of the stolen right. You will restore this right by force of justice, by force of arms, and by force of faith."

(The radio station of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, 3 June 1967)

TASS NEWS AGENCY REPORT

"Israel has carried out an armed attack against Egypt and she is increasing the scope of her activities, using a large force of planes and tanks. The Arab States regard this as planned aggression, with all the grave consequences involved. Israel would not have taken these steps without the help she is now receiving from abroad. The words of the Syrian representatives at the Security Council on 3rd June are remembered regarding the western, and particularly American, incitement of Israel. Washington ought to use her influence over Tel-Aviv to restrain the Israel extremists. But her own measures of support, including the threatening and provocative manoeuvres of the Sixth Fleet off western shores instead have encouraged extremists in Israel towards militant action. Behind the stand of the United States and that of several other western countries, hide colonialist interests, primarily oil interests. There is no doubt that these imperialist circles gave Israel the inspiration for this new and dangerous military venture against Egypt. The Arab people reacted to this aggression at two points. The whole Arab world is extending collective aid to Egypt, which is now repelling Israeli aggression. The Arab states are ready to meet the imperialists and their puppets with a united and overwhelming response. The peoples of the Arab states are not alone in their righteous struggle against imperialist aggression, for, as was announced in the last Soviet declaration, those who plan aggression will be forced into conflict, not only with the united forces of the Arab states, but also with the violent opposition of the Soviet Union and all peace-loving nations."

(June 6, 1967)

ARAB STATEMENTS

BATTLE OF DESTINY AGAINST ISRAEL

President Boumedienne of Algeria

"Brethren, this is the battle of the Arab homeland, of the Arab nation, the battle of destiny. And we must look at the battle from this angle . . . The true freedom of the entire homeland must be won through the *liquidation* of the state of the Zionists and the expulsion of the American and the British from the area."

(Algiers Radio, in Arabic, 4 June 1962)

SOVIET STATEMENTS

EXTRACT FROM SOVIET NOTE TO ISRAEL, June 7, 1967

"The Government of the Soviet Union expresses its decisive condemnation of the traitorous attack by Israel upon a neighbouring Arab state — the UAR.

"This venture constitutes a direct and open violation of the United Nations Charter and the principles contained therein. This attack has conclusively proved the nature of the policies implemented by ruling circles in Israel, who for the sake of their own narrow interests are willing to gamble with their whole destiny. Israel's aggression has no connection with the declared concern of your country over the existence of the State of Israel.

"News is arriving from various sources that the decision of the Security Council of the United Nations on an immediate cease-fire and a cessation of military activity is not being adhered to by the Israeli side. Israel is brutally and openly flouting the decision and is continuing the war against the Arab countries.

"If the Israeli government does not comply immediately with the general demands of the nations concerning the immediate cease-fire which was decided upon by the Security Council, the Soviet Union will re-examine her relations with Israel and will reach a decision regarding the continuation of diplomatic relations with Israel, who by her actions has placed herself in opposition to all the peace-loving nations. It is understood that the Soviet government will examine the position and take other necessary steps resulting from the aggressive policy of Israel."

ARAB STATEMENTS

BURNING WITH DESIRE FOR THE BATTLE TO START

President Nasser after Signing the Agreement for the Affiliation of Iraq to the Egyptian-Jordanian Defence Pact

“ . . . We are facing you in the battle and are burning with desire for it to start, in order to obtain revenge for the 1956 treachery. This will make the world realise what the Arabs are and what Israel is. It will also learn that the Arab soldier is a brave and tough fighting soldier and that the Arab people are a self-sacrificing, brave and heroic people . . . ”

(Cairo Radio, 4 June 1967)

SOVIET STATEMENTS

EXTRACT FROM SOVIET NOTE TO ISRAEL, June 10, 1967

"The news has just been received that the Israeli armies, ignoring the decision of the Security Council regarding military action, are continuing this action, are occupying Syrian territory, and are moving towards Damascus. The Soviet government warns the Israeli government that it bears the full responsibility for this treason, by its catastrophic violation of the decision of the Security Council. If Israel does not cease its militant actions immediately, the Soviet Union together with other peace-loving nations will impose sanctions together with all the consequences arising from them. The Soviet Union declares that in the light of the continued aggression by Israel towards the Arab states, and the grave violation of the decision of the Security Council, the Soviet Union has decided to sever diplomatic relations with Israel."